



PALAWANPAY
CASH IN / OUT



PERA PADALA



SANGLA



JEWELRY SELLING



**INTERNATIONAL
REMITTANCE**



BILLS PAYMENT



INSURANCE



**PADALA TO BANK
ACCOUNT**



E-LOADING



MONEY CHANGER



**CASH CARD/
ATM WITHDRAWAL**

MAY PANGANGAILANGAN?

I-PALAWAN MO NA!

Supervised by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas

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balita

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**FRANCISCO "KIKO"
A. BARZAGA**

*Former Representative
4th District of Cavite (Lone)
City of Dasmariñas*

When History Calls:
How the Rotary Club
of Manila Reimagined
a 107-Year Legacy

Swinging for Service:
The 4th Rotary Club of
Manila Golf Tournament

PAGSIBOL:
The Genesis
of an Impact
Creating
President's
Rotary
Story



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FIRST WEEKLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING Rotary Year 2026-2027

Mr. Francisco “Kiko” A. Barzaga
Former Congressman, Fourth District of Cavite

Thursday, July 9, 2026, 12:15 p.m.
Ballroom 1, Fairmont Makati

Moderator: Director Carlos “Caloy” G. Serapio

PROGRAM

PART I

11:00 AM Registration /Lunch

12:15 PM Call to Order
President Reginald T. Yu

Invocation
**Club Internal Auditor Abdulgani
Macatoman**

Philippine National Anthem (AVP)

Rotary Club of Manila Hymn
RCM World-Famous Music Chorale

The Four-Way Test
STAR Rotarian Myles Tan

Introduction of Visiting Rotarians & Guests
Director Michael D. Roxas

Welcome Song
RCM World-Famous Music Chorale

12:30 PM **Birthday Celebrants of the Week**

- July 6 STAR Rtn. Job Gesmundo
- July 10 Rtn. Bertel Bertelsen
- July 13 PVP Joel Valdes
- July 14 PDG Rudy Bediones
- July 15 Rtn. JV Magsaysay

Birthday Song
RCM WF MUSIC CHORALE

PART II

12:55 PM **President’s Time**

- **President’s Report**
President Reginald T. Yu
- **Report on the Induction**
PDG Alexander P. Cureg
- **Highlights of the 107TH**
Anniversary & Induction
Ceremonies (AVP)

**FIRST WEEKLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Rotary Year 2026-2027**

**Mr. Francisco “Kiko” Barzaga-Former Congressman
4th District of Cavite**

Thursday, July 9, 2026, 12:15 PM
Ballroom 1, Fairmont Hotel

1:00 PM **Recognition of 50 Years of Rotary
Service**
Audio-visual tribute
Honoring
Past Internal Auditor Jaime C. Laya
Chairman, Philippine Trust Company
Club Internal Auditor Rotary Year 2005-2006

1:05 PM **Introduction of the Guest of Honor &
Speaker**
**Assistant Board Legal Adviser Hansel
Joseph Michael Tillman**

Address:
Hon.Francisco “Kiko” A. Barzaga
Former Representative
Fourth District of Cavite

1:30 PM **Open Forum**

1:55 PM **Response**

**Presentation of Certificate of
Appreciation**

2:00 PM **Adjournment**
President Reginald T. Yu

**CREATE
LASTING
IMPACT**

Rotary 

**CREATE
LASTING
IMPACT**

EDITORIAL

Disruption, Anyone?

DISRUPTION as a business strategy was first propounded by Professor Clayton Christensen of Harvard Business School. He taught disruptive innovation as a powerful tool for small companies with fewer resources to challenge established or incumbent businesses by addressing an underserved need.

In his theory, Christensen identified three approaches to business innovation, namely: sustaining innovation which happens when an established company creates improved



Senen T. Mangalile
Editor-in-Chief

versions of its products to sell for a higher profit; low-end disruption, in which a company targets a segment on an established company's market base and forces the latter to focus on its upmarket clientele; and new-market disruption, in which a company claims a new segment of an existing market by providing a solution to a need that was previously unfulfilled, unsatisfactorily fulfilled, or fulfilled at great cost.

The third approach is the most disruptive. As the upstart improves and expands its range of products or services, the incumbent's products or services become obsolete. Think of

EDITORIAL

what Netflix, Spotify, and Zoom have done in their respective niches, while locally we can name Angkas, BYD, and Lalamove as some of those who are pursuing disruptive innovation in their fields.

As often happens, strategies born in the boardroom find their way into the political sphere - the market being the voter base and the public persona or campaign platform of a politico as the product being sold. In the Philippines where there are no real distinguishable identifiers between and among political parties, disruption is perhaps the fastest and most effective way an upstart can challenge long-entrenched incumbents. By targeting underserved segments, whether the disservice is real or perceived, a “new-market” politico’s chances of garnering votes are increased. Hence one sees campaign slogans, jingles, and speeches targeting students, retirees, the poor, women, LBGTQI+, PWD’s, commuters, laborers, and the great unwashed, and promising them everything that they need that the incumbent apparently ignores or sweeps under a rug, if the challenger is to be believed.

It is always interesting to watch when a disruptive challenger succeeds, takes office, and finds his expectations rudely meeting political reality. In the crucible of the plenary debates, hallway negotiations, and committee hearings for those in the legislative, or in budget deliberations, resource allocation, and filling administrative positions for those in the executive, the disruptor’s mettle is tested and his or her brand is either burnished or blemished.

Disruption is inherently based on fostering conflict: Brand X is better than Brand Y, Candidate A is more responsive than Candidate B. This is why, like Marmite, disruptors are an acquired taste. Preferring the status quo to remain undisturbed, many may look on the disruptor as the fly in an otherwise sanitized and reliably familiar ointment.

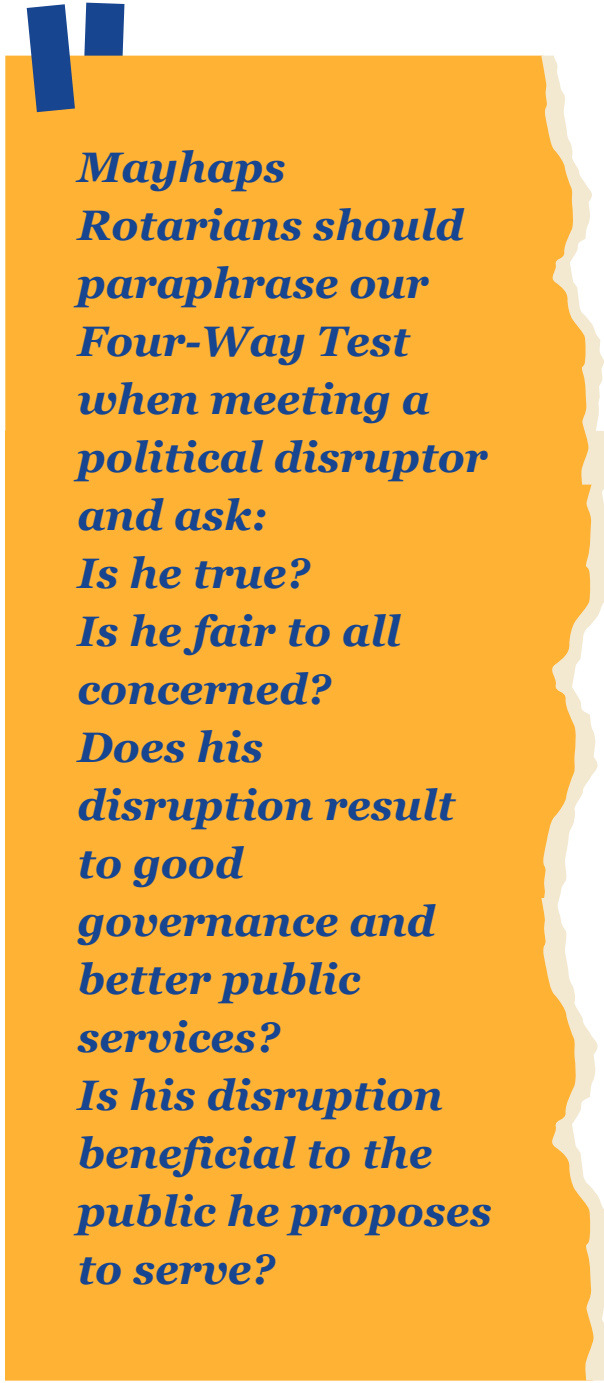
The sense of conflict enlarges the higher the position sought becomes or the more entrenched the incumbent is. How the disruptor absorbs, addresses and thrives in this high-pressure environment defines how he or she changes the system or is changed by the system. It is thus not entirely

EDITORIAL

unusual to see disruptors becoming pariah in the company of peers, or being forced to compromise to the point of becoming more “trapo” than the incumbent they unseated.

One thing is certain about disruptive innovation in business: only those companies that actually deliver for the underserved segment survives and thrives, while the rest wither and fall by the wayside. This becomes less certain in politics, especially when disruptors can themselves easily turn into traditional politicians, or if the disruptor is actually part of an entrenched clan. The litmus test is whether the needs of the underserved have been met or they are left searching for another promising upstart willing to joust against the constantly turning political windmills.

Mayhaps Rotarians should paraphrase our Four-Way Test when meeting a political disruptor and ask: Is he true? Is he fair to all concerned? Does his disruption result to good governance and better public services? Is his disruption beneficial to the public he proposes to serve?



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When History Calls: **How the Rotary** **Club of Manila** **Reimagined a** **107-Year Legacy**

By President Reginald T. Yu

There are occasions that simply occupy a place in the calendar.

And then there are those rare moments that quietly alter the trajectory of an institution.

For the Rotary Club of Manila, July 2, 2026, belonged unmistakably to the latter.

It was, on paper, merely another induction ceremony — the formal passing of leadership from one president to the next. But by the time the sun had risen over Luneta and finally set beyond the chandeliers of The Manila Hotel, something far more significant had unfolded.

It became a meditation on history.

On stewardship.

On what it means to inherit an institution that has already lived for more than a century — and yet must somehow continue finding new ways to inspire.

Asia's First Rotary Club had not merely installed its 107th President.

It had reintroduced itself to its own history.

A Different Beginning

Ironically, none of this was how it was originally supposed to happen.

The new President had envisioned something almost radically simple.

His earliest concept was not grandeur but humility.



Instead of a ballroom filled with dignitaries, he imagined taking his oath at Hospicio de San Jose, surrounded by the children whose lives Rotary seeks to improve.

No elaborate production.
No glittering ceremony.
Just service.

Afterward, everyone would share a modest meal together.

It would have been an unmistakable statement that Rotary exists not for spectacle but for compassion. It was, by every measure, a beautiful idea. Yet the Rotary Club of Manila carries a burden that few organizations possess. Its history demands something more.

Founded in 1919, it is not merely another Rotary club. It is the oldest in Asia — the Mother Club from which hundreds of Rotary clubs across the continent trace their roots.

Its ceremonies have never belonged solely to its members. They belong to Rotary's collective memory.



The sublime voices of the STA Concert Chorus transformed a ceremonial gathering into a profoundly moving experience.

Senior leaders gently reminded the incoming President of this reality. The Rotary Club of Manila has always been expected to lead.

Its traditions establish benchmarks. Its standards become examples. Its ceremonies become institutional statements.

Gradually, the vision evolved.



Moments after laying a wreath in tribute to our National Hero, Dr. José P. Rizal, President Reginald T. Yu had the distinct privilege of walking alongside Manila Mayor Isko Moreno Domagoso at the Rizal Monument.

An Oath Before the Nation's Hero

If Rotary International had chosen "*Create Lasting Impact*" as its worldwide theme, perhaps there could be no more meaningful backdrop than the monument of a man whose own sacrifice continues to shape the nation.

Thus was born one of the most extraordinary ideas in the club's modern history.

At dawn on July 2, under the first light of morning, the Board of Directors, Officers, and Foundation Trustees assembled before the Rizal Monument.

There, beneath the silent gaze of Dr. Jose Rizal, they took their oath.

It was the first induction ceremony of its kind in the Rotary Club of Manila's 107-year existence.

The symbolism was unmistakable. Leadership was no longer confined within the walls of a hotel ballroom. It became a public covenant.

The participation of Manila Mayor Francisco "Isko Moreno" Domagoso further underscored the enduring partnership between the city and Asia's First Rotary Club.

For those who witnessed it, the ceremony possessed an uncommon stillness.

The absence of fanfare amplified its solemnity. History, patriotism, and service converged in one unforgettable morning.



The Invisible Mountain

Spectators often remember ceremonies. They rarely see the mountains climbed to create them.

Behind every elegant moment lies months of unseen labor.

The dawn oath-taking required permits from numerous government agencies, painstaking coordination with civic authorities, traffic management, security planning, protocol officers, and logistical teams.

Every approval represented another hurdle.

Every revision demanded another meeting.

Every distinguished guest required careful scheduling.

Simultaneously, preparations were underway for an evening celebration worthy of the Rotary Club of Manila's place in history.

It was, in many respects, two major events compressed into a single day. Such undertakings rarely succeed through inspiration alone. They succeed because countless individuals quietly refuse to accept mediocrity.



With the ceremonial ringing of the bell, Immediate Past President Raoul C. Creencia formally called to order the 107th Anniversary Celebration and Induction Ceremonies of the Rotary Club of Manila on July 2, 2026, marking the official transition from one year of dedicated service to the next.



Past District Governor Herminio "Sonny" Coloma delivered the Charge to the Incoming Officers of the Rotary Club of Manila, reminding the club's new leadership that true Rotary service demands integrity, accountability, and unwavering commitment.

The Architects Behind the Vision

Every landmark event has its visible moments.

Far fewer people see those who quietly make those moments possible.

Behind the Rotary Club of Manila's historic induction stood **Past District Governor Alexander Cureg**, who served as Induction Chairman and became the steady force that transformed an ambitious vision into a flawless reality. While others witnessed the elegance of the ceremonies, he carried the enormous responsibility of ensuring that every moving part — programming, protocol, logistics, production, fundraising, and coordination — worked in harmony. His leadership was never loud, but it was unmistakable. Calm under pressure, meticulous in preparation, and unwavering in his pursuit of excellence, he provided the steady hand that allowed an unprecedented undertaking to unfold with remarkable precision. If the ceremonies appeared effortless, it was because months of painstaking work had been orchestrated long before the first guest arrived.

Equally deserving of recognition was **Rotarian Lawrence "Lance" Tan**, whose creativity, determination, and relentless execution gave life to what many initially believed impossible. It was



Former Department of Trade and Industry Undersecretary and Rotary Club of Manila Auditor, Usec. Gani Macatoman, delivered the Universal Invocation.



Setting a tone of dignity, purpose, and patriotism, Rotarian Lance Tan, Chairman of the Oath-Taking Ceremony Program, formally welcomed distinguished guests, Rotarians, civic leaders, and dignitaries to the historic morning induction ceremonies at the Rizal Monument.

Lance who spearheaded the historic dawn oath-taking at the Rizal Monument — the first in the Rotary Club of Manila's 107-year history. Coordinating multiple government agencies, navigating permits and protocols, and harmonizing the countless logistical details required to stage a ceremonial induction at one of the nation's most sacred landmarks demanded exceptional perseverance. Through his efforts, an inspired idea became a defining milestone not only for the club but for Rotary history in the Philippines.

Together, PDG Alex Cureg and Rtn. Lance Tan demonstrated a timeless truth about leadership: history is rarely shaped by a single individual. It is built by dedicated people who willingly carry enormous responsibilities, often behind the scenes, so that others may experience moments that appear effortless. Their work ensured that July 2, 2026, would be remembered not simply as another induction ceremony, but as one of the most significant milestones in the modern history of Asia's First Rotary Club.



Against the timeless backdrop of the Rizal Monument, the newly inducted Board of Directors and Officers of the Rotary Club of Manila stand proudly with Manila Mayor Isko Moreno Domagoso following the club's historic oath-taking ceremony.



In one of the most symbolic moments of the ceremony, Immediate Past President Atty. Raoul C. Creencia formally entrusted the Rotary Club of Manila's bell and gavel to yours truly, signifying the peaceful transfer of authority, responsibility, and stewardship of Asia's First Rotary Club.



Bringing the historic ceremonies to a fitting close, Rotary Club of Manila Director Delfin Lorenzana delivered the Closing Remarks.



With the ceremonial strike of the gavel, Pres. Reginald T. Yu formally adjourned the historic morning oath-taking ceremonies.

More Than an Anniversary

The evening celebration at The Manila Hotel reflected that same philosophy.

The spacious Fiesta Pavilion welcomed more than 440 guests, transforming what had been envisioned as a club induction into something resembling a district-wide convention.

The room itself became a portrait of relationships built over decades.

Present were Rotary leaders from across District 3810, Past Presidents, Past District Governors, civic leaders, university classmates, business colleagues, and friends representing organizations that had intersected with the President's own journey — from JCI Manila and JCI Senate Manila to the Philippine Paint and Coatings Association, the Anvil Business Club, and the Philippine Hong Tei Cultural Association.

Their presence revealed something fundamental about leadership. No meaningful journey is ever traveled alone.

Every chapter leaves behind companions.
Every season of service creates friendships that outlive the office itself.



With elegance, poise, and professionalism, Past President Jujut Villa-Real Enriquez and Ms. Zyrene Valencia masterfully served as the Masters of Ceremonies for Part I of the Rotary Club of Manila's 107th Induction and Handover Ceremonies at the Manila Hotel.



Invoking the Almighty's guidance upon the gathering, Rotary Club of Manila Director Mike Roxas delivered the evening Invocation, calling upon God's wisdom and blessings as the Club celebrated its 107th Induction and Handover Ceremonies.

Honoring Those Who Came Before

The ceremonies never allowed the evening to become merely celebratory.

Instead, they continually returned to one central idea:

Legacy.

Past President Domingo S. Guevara and **Dr. Jaime C. Laya** were honored for fifty years of Rotary service — a reminder that institutions are ultimately sustained not by speeches but by decades of faithful commitment.

Immediate Past President Raoul C. Creencia received the Leadership Award in recognition of a year that strengthened the club and laid the groundwork for future initiatives.

New members were welcomed into the Rotary family.

The message was unmistakable. A healthy institution simultaneously remembers its elders while embracing its future.



One of the Rotary Club of Manila's most cherished traditions came alive as the world-renowned Rotary Club of Manila Music Chorale opened the formal reception with a stirring rendition of the Rotary Club of Manila Hymn.



With the precision and decorum befitting Rotary's highest traditions, Past District Governor Alexander P. Cureg, Chairman of the 107th Induction and Handover Ceremonies, formally acknowledged the distinguished dignitaries, honored guests, sister clubs, and visiting Rotarians who graced the historic celebration.



Delivering his first official address as the newly inducted Vice President of the Rotary Club of Manila, Karlo Castro warmly welcomed the distinguished guests, Rotary leaders, members, and friends gathered for the Club's 107th Induction and Handover Ceremonies.



In recognition of a lifetime devoted to Rotary service, President Reginald Yu, together with Membership Concerns Director Teodoro Kalaw IV, presented a commemorative portrait to Past Auditor Dr. Jaime C. Laya in celebration of his 50 remarkable years of dedicated service to the Rotary Club of Manila. Although Dr. Jimmy was unable to attend the ceremonies due to illness, the tribute was graciously received on his behalf by Past President Eusebio V. Tan, a longtime friend and fellow Rotarian.



In a fitting tribute to exemplary servant leadership, yours truly conferred the Leadership Award upon my Immediate Past President Atty. Raoul C. Creencia in recognition of his outstanding stewardship of the Rotary Club of Manila during Rotary Year 2025–2026.





A deeply moving tribute to five decades of unwavering Rotary service, Past President Domingo S. Guevara was honored on the occasion of his 50th Year in Rotary with a specially commissioned watercolor portrait, personally painted and presented by President Reginald Yu. Surrounded by his loving family, PP Boy received the gift with visible emotion, as the audience witnessed a heartfelt moment that transcended ceremony and celebrated a lifetime of service, friendship, and leadership.



Bringing wit, energy, and effortless chemistry to the stage, Rotarians Coco Mauricio and Board Legal Adviser Atty. Joaquin Esquivias masterfully served as the Masters of Ceremonies for Part II of the Rotary Club of Manila's 107th Induction and Handover Ceremonies.



Setting the stage for one of the evening's most anticipated moments, Rotarian Joey Garcia had the distinct honor of introducing the Guest of Honor and Speaker.

Voices That Challenged

The evening's distinguished speakers reinforced that narrative.

His Eminence Pablo Virgilio Cardinal David challenged Rotarians to embrace humility, moral courage, and compassion.

District Governor Dr. Maria Rosa "Bing" Carrion reminded members that Rotary's greatest achievements are always collective.

Rotary International Director-Elect Engr. Edna Sutter urged members to think beyond their own clubs and dedicate themselves to creating impact that outlives individual terms.

Together, the speakers transformed the induction from ceremonial obligation into moral reflection.

Leadership, they suggested, is not measured by applause. It is measured by what remains after the applause ends.



Delivering a profound and thought-provoking keynote address, His Eminence Pablo Virgilio David, Bishop of Kalookan and one of the Catholic Church's foremost moral voices, challenged the Rotary Club of Manila to remain steadfast in defending the values that make us truly human amid an era of unprecedented technological change.



President Reginald Yu presented a Token of Appreciation to Guest of Honor and Speaker, His Eminence Pablo Virgilio David. Joining the presentation was STAR Rotarian Atty. Chris Tamesis, this year's Fellowship Chairman.



With heartfelt conviction and genuine admiration, Club Secretary PD Albert Singson Alday delivered an impassioned introduction of President Reginald T. Yu, offering the audience a glimpse not only of his modest credentials, but more importantly, the character, integrity, and servant leadership that have defined his Rotary journey.



One of the most cherished and emotional traditions of the Rotary Club of Manila came alive as the Club's World-Famous Music Chorale serenaded President Reginald T. Yu and First Lady Sandy with her favorite love song, "Kahit Maputi Na Ang Buhok Ko" by the legendary Rey Valera.



President Reginald T. Yu delivered his inaugural address as the 107th President of the Rotary Club of Manila, presenting a compelling vision for the year anchored on "Rotary T.U.R.N. – Toward a Unified Rotary Nation."



Surrounded by the people who have been his greatest source of strength — his beloved wife Sandy, their children, and his mother Susan — President Reginald T. Yu stood at one of the most meaningful moments of the evening as the Rotary Club of Manila's World-Famous Music Chorale serenaded them with its traditional tribute to the incoming President and spouse.



Director Carlos "Caloy" Serapio, Director for Youth Affairs, formally introduced the evening's Inspirational Speaker, Rotary International Director-Elect Engr. Edna Sutter.



Immediate Past President Atty. Raoul C. Creencia, whose exemplary leadership steered the Rotary Club of Manila through a remarkable Rotary Year 2025–2026, took to the podium to introduce the evening's final Inspirational Speaker.



Rotary International Director-Elect Engr. Edna Sutter delivered an inspiring and deeply personal message that challenged every Rotarian to embrace leadership as a privilege founded on service, humility, and integrity.



District Governor Bing N. Carrion delivered a heartfelt and inspiring message that challenged every Rotarian to embrace the true spirit of Rotary through servant leadership, compassion, and purposeful action.

Music as Institutional Memory

One of the evening's most memorable features came not through speeches but through music.

The Rotary Club of Manila World Famous Music Chorale, under the leadership of **Past Director Oscar del Rosario** and **Maestro Domino Marcos**, once again reminded everyone why it occupies such a cherished place within the club's identity.

Its performances transcended entertainment. They became expressions of institutional memory. Music accomplished what speeches sometimes cannot.

It connected generations. It transformed fellowship into shared emotion.

Adding to the celebration were performances by the internationally acclaimed vocal group **The CompanY**, renowned theater actress **Carla Guevara-Laforteza**, and former Senator **Atty. Joey Lina**, now President of The Manila Hotel.

Their unexpected appearances infused warmth, spontaneity, and delight into an evening already rich with symbolism.



In one of the evening's most touching and unforgettable moments, acclaimed theater actress and celebrated singer Carla Guevara Laforteza delivered a heartfelt surprise musical tribute to her father, Past President Domingo Guevara Jr., in honor of his 50 years of dedicated Rotary service.



Adding an unforgettable touch of warmth and fellowship to the evening, Atty. Joey Lina, President of The Manila Hotel, former Senator of the Philippines, and distinguished Rotarian, delighted the audience with a surprise rendition of the timeless classic "You'll Never Walk Alone".

Showing Up

Perhaps the evening's greatest achievement cannot be measured in program schedules or attendance figures.

It can be measured in something far simpler.

Presence.

In the days before July 2, many worried that major demonstrations scheduled within Manila would significantly affect attendance.

Traffic.
Mobility.
Security.
Logistics.

There were genuine reasons for concern.

Yet people came.

Not reluctantly.
Not sparsely.

They arrived early.
They filled the ballroom.

They demonstrated, through their very presence, that institutions endure because people choose to believe in them.

Attendance became affirmation.
Support became testimony.



Adding a vibrant and memorable dimension to the evening's festivities, the renowned Filipino vocal group The CompanY captivated guests with a superb performance that blended world-class musicianship, impeccable harmonies, and engaging stage presence.





The Power of Unity

Threaded throughout every ceremony was the President's chosen theme:

Rotary T.U.R.N. — Toward a Unified Rotary Nation.

It is a deceptively simple phrase.

Yet beneath it lies an enduring truth.

Rotary has never been built upon individual accomplishment.

Its greatest projects emerge from collective purpose.

Its finest traditions are sustained by shared responsibility.

Its future depends not upon one President, but upon many servants

moving in the same direction.

That philosophy became visible throughout the event.

The Board of Directors worked as partners rather than spectators. Committee members carried enormous responsibilities without seeking recognition.

Volunteers performed countless invisible tasks.

Sponsors, Secretariat personnel, Foundation officers, government partners, performers, and donors collectively transformed an ambitious vision into reality.

History rarely remembers every name. But history is always built by many hands.

The Meaning of Stewardship

Perhaps the most compelling lesson from July 2 lies not in what was celebrated but in what was inherited.

Every President receives a gavel.
Few inherit a legacy spanning more than a century.

That distinction changes everything.

It shifts leadership away from ownership toward stewardship.

The Rotary Club of Manila has survived wars, occupations, revolutions, economic crises, pandemics, and generations of changing leadership because each generation understood a simple truth:

They were never owners.
Only caretakers.

Their task was never merely to preserve the institution.

It was to strengthen it before passing it onward.



In a cherished Rotary Club of Manila tradition, the Club's Past Presidents gathered to offer a ceremonial toast in celebration of the Club's 107th Anniversary — honoring more than a century of distinguished leadership, enduring fellowship, and unwavering commitment to "Service Above Self." Raising their glasses alongside the commemorative anniversary cake, these former stewards of Asia's First Rotary Club symbolized the continuity of leadership that has sustained the organization since its founding in 1919.



District Governor-Nominee Herminio Hermie Esguerra administered the Charge to the new members (Hridesh Raj Parwani, Atty. Job Geismundo, and Joey de Venecia), reminding them that Rotary membership is not merely an honor to be worn, but a lifelong commitment to service, fellowship, integrity, and leadership.



Club Treasurer Arvin Arik B. Carranceja delivered the closing remarks.



Assisted by District Governor Nominee Herminio S. Esguerra, President Reginald T. Yu administered the induction of new members.



With the ceremonial gavel in one hand and the Rotary bell before him, President Reginald T. Yu formally adjourned the 107th Induction and Handover Ceremonies of the Rotary Club of Manila.

After the Applause

Every ceremony eventually concludes.

Lights dim.

Music ends.

Photographs are archived.

Guests depart.

The applause fades into memory.

What remains is work.

That is perhaps the lasting significance of July 2, 2026.

Its greatest achievement was not producing memorable photographs or an elegant celebration.

It was reminding an institution why it exists.

When future Rotarians revisit this day, they may remember the unprecedented dawn oath-taking before the Rizal Monument.

They may remember the crowded ballroom at The Manila Hotel.

They may remember stirring speeches and unforgettable music.

But perhaps what they will remember most is something less visible.

They will remember the moment when Asia's First Rotary Club looked back upon 107 years of history — not as a monument to preserve, but as a promise to fulfill.



For institutions, like nations, are ultimately judged not by how faithfully they commemorate the past, but by how courageously they prepare the future.

And on that remarkable day in July, the Rotary Club of Manila did both.

IN THEIR OWN WORDS

Invocation

Internal Auditor Abdulgani M. Macatoman



IN the name of God, the most magnificent, the most merciful, let us pray.

Almighty god, we humbly come before you with grateful hearts as we gather for this RCM Oathtaking ceremony. We thank you for the gift of life, for your countless blessings and for the opportunity to serve our club and our

community. We ask you, o god, to bless all our newly inducted board of directors and officers. Grant them with wisdom to lead with integrity, courage to uphold justice, humility to serve with compassion and perseverance to fulfill their duties with excellence.

Guide our leaders and every member of our club, strengthen our commitment to unity, cooperation and mutual respect. So together we will become men of positive change and service to others. We also pray to our families and loved ones, keep them under your loving heart. Bless them with good health, peace and happiness, and continue to be our source of strength and inspiration.

May all our plans, decision and action always reflect honesty, accountability and sincerely desire to contribute to the betterment of our community and our nation. We entrust, oh God, everything to your divine guidance and mercy.

Amen.

Welcome Remarks Rtn. Lawrence Li Tan



DISTINGUISHED guests, fellow Rotarians, ladies and gentlemen, good morning. It is my honor to welcome you to the 107th Induction Ceremony of the Rotary Club of Manila.

We are grateful to the guest of honor and inducting officer, Manila City Mayor Honorable Francisco “Isko Moreno, for his presence, leadership and support; to our incoming President Reginald Yu, our

board of directors and trustees, past president, district officers, fellow Rotarians, and friends. Welcome.

Today is a historic day for the first time we hold our induction ceremony here in front of the Rizal Monument, standing before Dr. Jose Rizal, the national hero of our country. Reminds us that true service is also love for the nation. His life teaches us that leadership must be guided by courage, unity, and purpose. In this minimum pull face, we renew our promise that service above self is not only a Rotary principle, but also a call to serve our country.

We also begin a Rotary year, we give our full support to President Reginald Yu, and he's called TURN: Toward a Unified Rotary Nation. May this guide us to work together with unity, purpose, and strong service.

Maraming maraming salamat po sa inyong lahat. Magandang umaga sa inyong lahat.

IN THEIR OWN WORDS

Keynote Address

Hon. Mayor Francisco "Isko" Moreno Domagoso



FIRST in Asia, always the first in Manila, we are here in kilometer zero, in any point of Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao, north and south, it starts and the journey begins here. And I think with the new presidency, from zero, I think thousands of kilometers ang mareach natin to help our fellow citizens.

So, congratulations, for the new sets of officers, and goodluck, *may awa ang Diyos, mapagtagumpayan natin, yun*



ating layunin na ipagmalasakit ang ating bansa, ating syudad, ating club at higit sa lahat yun ating mga kababayang nangangailangan.

From the beginning, Rotary by principle it is always helping others, so continue and our own little way as your city government, as your mayor, nasa kod-li niyo lang ako, anytime we could be at service, push button lang kami sa Maynila. Lagi kayong welcome sa Lungsod ng Maynila.

Magandang umaga, at pagpalain nawa kayo ng Poong Maykapal, Manila.

God bless.

IN THEIR OWN WORDS

Closing Remarks Director Delfin N. Lorenzana



The transfer of leadership is complete, the gavel has passed, the oaths have been taken, and a new chapter begins, but our work continues.

To all incoming officers, we welcome you. We have confidence that you will lead and guide us with integrity and a vision, know that you have the full support of the club.

Let us therefore go forward, united in fellowship and committed to service. Let us always remember that leadership is not about the title, but it is about service.

Let us continue to be people of action and do good in the world. Let us thank the installing officer, the Honorable Mayor Isko Moreno, for his continued and unwavering support to the Rotary Club of Manila.

Before we conclude, let us thank our outgoing leaders, led by President Raoul Creencia, for their dedication and service.

Please join me again in giving one more round of applause for the new leadership and board of directors of the Rotary Club of Manila 2026-2027

Thank you.

IN THEIR OWN WORDS

Invocation Director Michael D. Roxas



Good evening, may I invite everyone to pause for a moment of reflection, each according to our own faith and tradition.

Almighty God, creator and sources of all wisdom, love and peace, we come before you with grateful hearts, we thank you for bringing us together this evening of fellowship and friendship. Thank you for the privilege of serving others and for reminding us that service is not merely an obligation but a blessing.

As we gather to celebrate the beginning of this new rotary year and the leaders who have accepted the responsibility to serve, remind us that leadership is not measured by titles or recognition but by the strength of our character, the humility of our hearts, and the lives we held improve.

Teach us to lead not for our selves but for those we entrusted to serve. Tonight we lift up our beloved country in a time when many longs for greater trust, stronger institutions and renewed hope. Grant wisdom to our leaders and to each one of us, help us always to choose truth over convenience, honesty over personal gain, unity over division and the common good over self-interest.

Make us faithful stewards of every responsibility entrusted to us in our families, our professions, our organizations, and our communities. We also pray for our world, when there is conflict, bring peace; where there is suffering, bring comfort; where there is injustice, bring compassion. Help us build friendships across cultures, professions, beliefs and generations, knowing that understanding is often the first step toward lasting peace.

Lord, remind us why Rotary exists, keep our hearts focused on the people you have called us to serve. Teach us to serve not only with willing hands, but with compassionate hearts that recognize the dignity and worth of every person. Help us to see those who are often unseen, to hear those whose voices are seldom heard, and to reach those who need hope the most.

As we begin this new Rotary year, with the call to create lasting impact, may that impact begin within each of us. Before it is seen in our projects, may it first seen in our character; before it be measured by achievements, may it reflect in choices we make each day. May our words bring encouragement, our action bring hope and our example inspired others to serve. May the four-way test continue, guide our thoughts, our words, our actions, that what we think, say and do may be truthful, fair to all concern, build goodwill and better friendships and be beneficial to all. Grant us the wisdom to discern what is right, courage to do what is right even if its difficult, humility to listen before to lead, and compassion to faithfully lift the ideal of service above self. We ask your special blessing upon us the newly inducted officers as we begin this year of service, grant us wisdom to lead, humility to serve, courage to do what is right and faithfulness in caring in the trust place in us.

Bless every Rotarian, every guest, every family represented here this evening and especially the communities we are call to serve. May this new rotary year be a time of faithful service, meaningful fellowship and enduring hope. And may we always remember that the greatest legacy we leave is not the position we hold or the recognition received but the lives we touch, the trust we earn and the hope we leave behind. This we pray, each according to our own faith and belief.

IN THEIR OWN WORDS

Inaugural Address President Reginald T. Yu

Good evening.

Tonight, history is not watching us.

It is waiting for us.

Waiting to see what this generation of Rotarians will do with the extraordinary legacy entrusted to our care.

One hundred and seven years ago, visionary leaders planted a seed that became Asia's First Rotary Club.

For more than a century, that seed has grown into an institution that has changed lives, strengthened communities, and inspired generations of servant-leaders.

Tonight, that torch passes to us.
And the question before every one of us is not whether we inherited a great club.

The question is...
what kind of Rotary Club will we leave behind?

For one hundred and seven years, the Rotary Club of Manila has never been defined simply by its age.
It has been defined by its courage to lead.

Generation after generation, Rotarians came before us not because they sought recognition... but because they believed that



those who have been blessed have a responsibility to become a blessing to others.

They built schools.
Responded to disasters.
Recognized excellence through the TOWER Awards and the Journalism Awards.
Mentored leaders.
Strengthened communities.
And quietly transformed countless lives.

That is the inheritance we celebrate tonight.
But inheritance alone is never enough.

Every generation receives only one opportunity... to leave this institution stronger than it found it.

Tonight, that opportunity belongs to us.

Several years ago...
during the height of the pandemic...

I attended my very first Board meeting as the newly appointed Assistant Club Secretary.

IN THEIR OWN WORDS

Inaugural Address President Reginald T. Yu

To be honest...
I did not know what to expect.
The discussion was spirited.
Opinions differed.
Ideas collided.
Every issue seemed to invite another
perspective.
As I quietly observed from the corner of the
room...
I found myself wondering...

*"How can this group ever agree on
anything?"*

Then something remarkable happened.
The meeting ended.
The debate disappeared.

The same people who had passionately
disagreed only moments before were
suddenly laughing together, checking on one
another, sharing stories, offering help.

It was as though none of the disagreements
had ever happened.
And that evening, without anyone intending
to teach me, Rotary taught me one of the
greatest lessons of leadership.

Fellowship is not the absence of
disagreement.
Fellowship is the decision to remain united
despite it.
That lesson has stayed with me ever since.

Because leadership is not about convincing
everyone to think alike.

Leadership is creating an environment where
people with different ideas can continue
working together toward a common purpose.

That is Rotary at its best.

That lesson feels even more relevant today.
Because we live in a world increasingly
divided.

Too often, disagreement becomes distrust.
Conversations become confrontations.

People choose sides instead of choosing
solutions.

And institutions everywhere struggle to bring
people together.

Yet for one hundred and seven years, this
club has quietly demonstrated another way.

Here, people from different professions,
different generations, different backgrounds,
and different beliefs, sit at the same table.

Not because we agree on everything.
But because we agree on something greater
than ourselves.

Service Above Self.

That simple ideal has kept this club united
for more than a century.
And I believe it is exactly what our world
needs today.

IN THEIR OWN WORDS

Inaugural Address President Reginald T. Yu

My fellow Rotarians, we are not merely members of the First Rotary Club in Asia.

We are the stewards of a living legacy.
A legacy built by leaders who understood that success is never measured solely by what we achieve for ourselves, but by what we help others become.
A legacy built by men and women who believed that influence is most meaningful when it is used in service.

History remembers those who founded great institutions.
But history is shaped by every generation that refuses to let greatness end with them.

Tonight, that responsibility becomes ours.

And together, I believe we are ready to write one of the most meaningful chapters in the history of the Rotary Club of Manila.

Now let me tell you why I accepted this responsibility...

So why did I accept this responsibility?
The answer is simple.
Because somewhere along my Rotary journey, this club stopped being merely an organization I belonged to.

It became a family.
What began as an opportunity to serve became a place where I found mentors,

lifelong friendships, purpose, and a deeper understanding of what leadership truly means.
Like many of you, my Rotary journey has not always been easy.

There were moments when misunderstandings tested our fellowship.
Moments when frustrations threatened to discourage participation.
Moments when I wondered whether we could fully realize the extraordinary potential of this club.

But every challenge taught me something valuable.
I discovered that great organizations are not defined by the absence of problems.

They are defined by the willingness of good people to solve them together.

And each challenge strengthened my conviction that the Rotary Club of Manila's greatest days are still ahead.

I would be less than honest if I told you I accepted this office without hesitation.

There were evenings when I quietly asked myself,
"Am I truly ready for this?"

Not because I doubted Rotary.
But because I understood the weight of this responsibility.
To lead Asia's First Rotary Club...
is both an extraordinary privilege...
and a solemn trust.

IN THEIR OWN WORDS

Inaugural Address President Reginald T. Yu

Every President inherits more than a title. He inherits the hopes of every member, the legacy of every Past President, and the responsibility to leave the club stronger than he found it.

Each time I reflected on that responsibility, I arrived at the same answer. I accepted this responsibility because I believe in this club.

I believe in its people.

And I believe our greatest contribution to Rotary has not yet been made.

That conviction inspired this year's theme.

***Rotary T.U.R.N.
Toward a Unified Rotary Nation.***

People sometimes ask me,
"Why unity?"
Because I believe unity is not simply something Rotary needs.
It is something our nation needs.

Unity does not mean that we all think alike.
It does not require unanimous agreement.

Unity is built when people choose dialogue over division.
Collaboration over isolation.
Purpose over ego.



Service over self-interest.
Unity begins when we stop asking,
"Who is right?"
and start asking,
"What is right?"

That is Rotary.

Our country continues to face enormous challenges.
Children still struggle with hunger and malnutrition.

Many families continue searching for opportunities that remain just beyond their reach.

Communities remain vulnerable to disasters that arrive without warning. These realities cannot be solved by government alone.

They require engaged citizens.

IN THEIR OWN WORDS

Inaugural Address President Reginald T. Yu

Compassionate leaders.
People willing to step forward instead of
standing on the sidelines.
That is precisely why Rotary exists.
If there was ever a time for Rotary to lead...
it is now.

And if there was ever a Rotary club
uniquely positioned to lead...
it is the Rotary Club of Manila.

Because leadership is not measured by
seniority.
Leadership is measured by responsibility.
And with our history comes a greater
responsibility to serve.

This year, we have set an ambitious goal.

To grow our membership from **200 to
300 Rotarians.**

Not because we simply want a bigger club.
But because we want a greater force for
good.
Imagine what one hundred new Rotarians
truly represents.

One hundred new hearts.
One hundred new ideas.
One hundred new friendships.
One hundred new professional networks.
One hundred more people ready to answer
every call for help.

That is not merely membership growth.
That is hope...
multiplied.

Because growth is never the destination.
Impact is.

Membership is simply the vehicle that
allows us to serve more people...
more effectively, more compassionately
than ever before.

When we gather one year from tonight, I
hope we will not be talking primarily about
attendance records, or committee reports,
or statistics.

I hope we will be telling stories.

Stories of children who no longer go to bed
hungry.
Stories of students whose futures were
transformed because someone in this room
believed in education.
Stories of communities rebuilt after
disaster.
Stories of lives changed because Rotarians
chose action instead of indifference.

Somewhere, perhaps at this very moment,
there is a child we have never met whose
future will be different because of what the
Rotary Club of Manila chooses to do this
year.

My fellow Rotarians, that is the Rotary
worth building.

And the remarkable thing is, every one of
us has a part to play.

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Inaugural Address President Reginald T. Yu

But let me say this as clearly as I can.
None of what I have shared tonight
depends on one President.

No President, regardless of his passion or
experience, can transform a club by
himself.

The future of the Rotary Club of Manila
belongs to all of us.
It belongs to our Past Presidents, whose
wisdom continues to guide us.
It belongs to our senior members, whose
experience strengthens our foundation.
It belongs to our younger Rotarians, whose
ideas will shape our future.
It belongs to every spouse, every volunteer,
every family member, and every friend of
Rotary who quietly makes service possible.

Rotary has never been about one leader.
It has always been about leaders...
working together.

Tonight, I ask every Rotarian to make just
three commitments.

Not ten.
Not twenty.

Just three.

Bring One.

Invite one good person into our Rotary
family.



Someone whose life will be enriched by
service...
and whose talents will enrich our club.

Mentor One.

Help a younger Rotarian discover the joy of
leadership.
Because every experienced Rotarian in this
room was once the new member who
needed encouragement.
And finally...

Serve One More.

Join one project that stretches you beyond
your comfort zone.
Because growth never happens where
comfort lives.

Imagine what would happen if every
member accepted those three
commitments.

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Inaugural Address President Reginald T. Yu

One new Rotarian.
One new leader.
One new act of service.
That is how movements grow.
That is how legacies are built.

Before I conclude, allow me to thank one group of people without whom I could never have accepted this responsibility.

My family.

To my mother, thank you for teaching me that success finds its greatest meaning when it is placed in the service of others.

To my beloved wife Sandy...
Thank you for your love, your patience, and for sharing me with Rotary.
To Ryan, Regine, Robin, and Roxanne...

Everything we strive to accomplish through Rotary is ultimately about building a better future for your generation and for those who will follow.
I love you, and I thank you.

My dear fellow Rotarians, tonight is not simply the beginning of another Rotary year.

It is a defining moment.

A moment when we decide not merely what we will accomplish, but who we will become.

Years from now, another President will stand on this very stage.

He will look back at Rotary Year 2026–2027.
He will ask only one question.

"What kind of legacy did they leave behind?"

Let our answer be this.

We left a stronger fellowship.
A more united Rotary family.

A larger force for good.
And a Rotary Club of Manila more relevant, more compassionate, and more impactful than ever before.

When I began this evening...
I said that history was waiting.
Waiting to see what this generation of Rotarians would do with the legacy entrusted to us.

Tonight, our answer begins.

It begins with unity.
It begins with service.
It begins with everyone of us.
Let us T.U.R.N.
Toward one another.
Toward service.
Toward hope.
Toward a stronger Rotary.
Toward a stronger nation.

**Let us T.U.R.N.
Together.**

Thank you.

IN THEIR OWN WORDS

Keynote Address

His Eminence † Most Reverend Pablo Virgilio Cardinal David

I would like to begin by extending my congratulations to the new leadership body of the oldest Rotary Club in all of Asia. Congratulations to all of you. And compliments to Reggie Yu for that Jose Rizal pose.

Allow me first to congratulate you for this 107th Induction and Turnover Ceremonies. 107 years is no ordinary milestone, it speaks of a tradition of leadership, service, and commitment to the common good that has endured through generations of Filipinos. I'd like to thank you for the honor of being invited to share a few reflections with you this evening. Kababalik ko lang po galing sa Vatican in Rome, and to be honest, I'm still a bit jet-lagged because I arrived early this morning. You know that last week I participated in the Consistory of the College of Cardinals, convoked by Pope Leo II to be convoked by Pope Leo XIV. Since his election in May of last year, I had the privilege of serving as one of the four moderators during our sessions and on the final day, we shared lunch with the Holy Father.

Naturally, I cannot tell you what we discussed around that table, but I can tell you what Pope Leo has already shared publicly through his words, his apostolic journeys, and especially through his recently published social encyclical entitled Magnifica



Humanitas. You can download it, there is a whole website for Vatican documents, you can freely download any Vatican document through www.vatican.va, Magnifica Humanitas.

I call it the platform of papacy of Pope Leo, and if I were asked to summarize his vision in one sentence, I would say this, “Our greatest challenge today is not simply technological, political, or economic, it is profoundly human and moral.” The title of his encyclical says it all, Magnifica Humanitas, which means magnificent humanity. Notice that the Pope expresses his admiration, not first for artificial intelligence, but for the human intelligence that created it. Artificial intelligence, after all, is just a product of human intelligence and it is human intelligence that you should

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be awed about because it is a gift from God. Technology itself is neither good nor evil; it simply magnifies the intentions of those who create and use it. That is why the real question facing our generation is not whether artificial intelligence will become more powerful, it certainly will. The more important question is this, will humanity become wiser? Will we become more compassionate? Will we use our growing knowledge to serve humanity or merely to dominate one another? This question is not limited to scientists or technology companies. It is a question for political leaders, for educators, for business executives, for religious communities, civic organizations, and certainly for you, Rotarians.

The ancient title traditionally given to the Pope, the leader of the Catholic Church, in Latin is Pontifex Maximus, which means, literally, the supreme bridge builder. I remember my brother Randy David, the first time he traveled to Europe, when he came home, he gifted me with a little medallion with the face of the then Pope John XXIII and I saw the inscription on that medallion, Pontifex Maximus. Nag-research po ako and I found out na ang ibig sabihin ito, the supreme bridge builder. Kaya nung bata ako, akala ko ang Santo Papa engineer, bridge builder.

Well, I have often reflected that this beautiful

image is not meant for the Pope alone. Every authentic leader is called to become a bridge builder. Every community that serves society must build bridges, not walls. That is why I find your Rotary theme so meaningful, Toward a Unified Rotary Nation. Unity cannot be achieved by slogans, it is built patiently, relationship by relationship, act of service by act of service, conversation by conversation. Bridges are never built overnight, they require vision, sacrifice, trust, and perseverance. You know that we are living at a time when many institutions throughout the world are under enormous strain. This was very much a part of our conversation with Pope Leo. The collapse of many of our global institutions. Public discourse has become increasingly polarized. Social media often rewards outrage rather than understanding. Many have become quicker to condemn than to listen, quicker to divide than to unite. We seem to be losing the language of dialogue, and you know this concerns Pope Leo very deeply. One of the striking themes of Magnifica Humanitas is its invitation to disarm our words.

Before weapons destroy lives, words often destroy trust, nakakamatay ho ang salita, people, or before wars begin on battlefields, they frequently begin in speeches, propaganda, and public narratives that portray other human beings as enemies rather than neighbors. Hitler did not begin

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exterminating the Jewish people with guns, he started it with words, by othering them, by vilifying them, by labeling them as enemies. Nakapadali pong pumatay using violent words.

History teaches us this very painful lesson; the great tragedies of the 20th century did not begin with bombs. They began with words that dehumanized entire peoples. Words that justified exclusion, spread fear, and cultivated hatred. Violence is first rehearsed in language before it is carried out in action. Perhaps this explains why language has become so important in the age of artificial intelligence. Large language

models learn from the words that we produce. Do not forget, when you use an AI application, whether chat GPT, or cloud, or anything, you are its teacher. Please behave like a parent to a super intelligent child. Be respectful to it, and it will be respectful to you, pero murahin mo siya, matututo rin siyang magmura sa iyo.

Language models analyze our conversations, our writings, our stories, and even our patterns of communication. Ngayon, pati desisyon kaya na niyang gawin. In a very real sense, the future of artificial intelligence is being shaped by the language of humanity and this realization should humble us. Every word we speak has consequences. Kaya kung minsan, bago natin sasabihin ng isang bagay, kung minsan makakailangan maghulus-dili muna tayo, is it worth saying anything? Words can inspire hope, but words can also spread despair. Words can heal wounds, but words can also deepen divisions. They can encourage reconciliation, but they can inflame conflict. Long before artificial intelligence generates language, human beings choose the kind of language that will shape our culture.

For Christians, this should not surprise us, The Bible opens with God creating

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through His Word, In the beginning was the Word, says the Gospel of John, the prologue of the Gospel of John. In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. Our faith reminds us that words are never empty, words create realities, they shape relationships, they reveal the condition of the human heart. That is why compassion is never merely a feeling. Compassion always becomes action, alam niyo po, kahit sa Tagalog, we make a distinction between awa, habag, at malasakit. Compassion comes closer to the Filipino sense of malasakit. Dalawang salita yun, di ba? Sakit, mala. Mala means parang, sakit is pain. Alam niyo ba yung karanasang parang nasasaktan ka kahit ibang tao nasasaktan? You are moved by what other people are suffering, and that is positive. Pain is a good indicator that there is a connection, that your body, its system, its immune system is at working. Dapat nga tayong mabahala kapag hindi na tayo marunong masaktan sa'y kinasasakit ng ating kapwa. Di ba may kasabihan tayo sa wikang Pilipino, Ang sakit ng kalintingan, ramdam ng buong katawan. Hindi naman po naging totoo yun, kapag hindi mo na maramdaman ang sakit ng iyong kalintingan, masamang lagay ng katawan mo, ibig sabihin, manhid. Kapag namamanhid na tayo at di natin madama, ang nararamdaman ng ating kapwa, something's wrong with the body. So hindi

dapat mauwi sa awa at habag lang, kundi sa aksyon, at ang aksyon may malasakit.

The Rotary motto, Service Above Self, beautifully expresses this conviction. It reminds us that leadership is not about status, but about responsibility. Not about privilege, but about stewardship. Not about accumulating influence, but about using influence for the good of others. In many ways, organizations like Rotary are indispensable partners in nation building. Governments formulate policies, businesses create wealth, religious communities nurture moral and spiritual values. Civil society organizations build something equally important, social trust. They create spaces where people from different professions, different political persuasions, different religious traditions and social backgrounds can work together for a common purpose. In an increasingly fragmented world, this may be one of the greatest services that anyone can offer. A nation is ultimately held together not by its laws alone, nor by its economy, nor even by its institutions.

A nation can be held together only by the character of its people. Integrity can never be legislated, compassion cannot be imposed and trust cannot be manufactured. These are cultivated through countless acts of service that

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quickly transform communities from within. Maybe that is why hope remains so important, hope is very often misunderstood as optimism or mistaken for optimism. Hindi ho pareho ang hope and optimism, they're not the same. Optimism expects that things will naturally improve. But hope decides to work for improvement even when circumstances appear to be very discouraging. Hope is a moral choice before it is an emotion. Every scholarship granted, every community project completed, every medical mission conducted, every young leader mentored, every family assisted in times of crisis, these are not simply charitable activities. They are what I would call acts of hope; they are quiet declarations that goodness is still possible in this world. That solidarity still matters and that every human person possesses an inviolable dignity.

Alam ko kung minsan narang nawawala na tayo ng tiwala sa ating kapwa-tao. At totoo naman may dahilan kung bakit na kakaganyan tayo minsan. But we should be alarmed when we start to lose hope and trust in humanity itself. Hindi niyo ba napapansin minsan, we develop a kind of an inferiority complex about our humanity? Kahit sa Pilipino mayroon tayong kinakantang sapagkat kami tao lamang. Para bang napakasama ng maging

tao? The good news of Christianity is our template for humanity is no longer the fallen and sinful Adam, but the risen Christ, the image of our new humanity.

Pope Leo has repeatedly reminded us that peace is more than the absence than the absence of war. Peace is the fruit of justice, dialogue, solidarity, and respect for human dignity. In the same way, national unity is more than the absence of conflict. There will never be a time in our history when we will not have to face conflicts. It grows whenever citizens choose cooperation over suspicion, that is how we fight conflicts. When we choose encounter over isolation and service over self-interest.

My dear Rotarian friends, perhaps our world does not need more powerful people nearly as much as it needs more compassionate leaders. It does not need louder voices as much as wiser words. It does not need more walls but more bridges. If there is one message that I have brought home from Rome, it is this. The future of humanity will not ultimately be determined by the sophistication of our machines but by the greatness of our humanity. Technology will continue to advance; artificial intelligence will become increasingly

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capable. I don't know if you've heard that they are now coming up with new applications called digital afterlife. My sister was telling me that she attended a funeral where the dead, the parent of the family, addressed them. And it was a chatbot and they were allowed to bring home their father with them. Because that father happened to be a journalist and he had many journals and blogs, and they uploaded all of them. You know, AI is data-driven, with just enough data, you can create a chatbot of yourself, so that patay ka na, buhay ka pa.

Well, can you imagine what it will be like when they start harvesting your memory bank? They call it digital afterlife, it's a bit scary what we humans are capable of, no doubt about this. AI will become more increasingly capable but no machine can replace a compassionate art. No machine can replace an honest conscience or a person who freely chooses to serve another out of love, that remains our uniquely human vocation.

Allow me to conclude, therefore, with this thought, the gospel teaches us that whoever wishes to become great must first become a servant, Rotary tells us, service above self, Pope Leo calls the world to recover a civilization of love instead of a culture of power. These are not competing visions; they are different expressions of the same enduring truth. When compassion becomes action, hope becomes contagious and when hope becomes contagious, communities are renewed. And when communities are renewed, nations are transformed.

Thank you very much. And may God continue to bless the Rotary Club of Manila and all of you in your noble mission of serving our people.

Magandang gabi po sa inyo lahat.

IN THEIR OWN WORDS

Inspirational Message

Rotary International Director Nominee Edna R. Sutter

Protocol observed, but I still want to greet President Reggie Yu, Immediate Past President Raoul and spouse Myls, to the members of the Rotary Club of Manila, District Governor Bing Carrion. Magandang gabi po sa inyong lahat.

Some years ago, I overheard my spouse Martin, encouraging Reggie to join the Rotary Club in my district, of course, but obviously, he has chosen the Rotary Club of Manila. Well, I can understand why, because there are clubs whose names have become part of Rotary's history. There are clubs that are admired because of the kind of leaders they produce, and the Rotary Club of Manila is one of those.

When I joined Rotary in 1999, it was the first lesson that I learned: that the Philippines is home to the first club in Asia, the Rotary Club of Manila, where Rotary's journey in this region began.

For 107 years, each generation has served something precious, from those who came before, and that's not just a club; it's not just tradition; it is legacy. And every legacy comes with the responsibility to preserve it, strengthen it, and pass it on to the next. And, I believe, that this is the same responsibility that Immediate Past President Raoul has entrusted to President Reggie. Because in Rotary, leadership is not about occupying a position, it is about



accepting a responsibility, and that responsibility begins with understanding where Rotary stands today.

Fortunately, Rotary enters its second century from a position of strength, financial strength, global respect, and its presence in more than 200 countries and geographical areas. But the whole world is changing; technology, including artificial intelligence, is reshaping the way we communicate, the way we work, and the way we serve, and that's the reason why rotary must also evolve while losing its values and missions. Because even at these challenges, rotary continues to thrive. Why? Because the world still longs for something that Rotary uniquely offers: human connection, compassion, purpose, service, and hope, which makes Rotary still matter today more than ever.

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Inspirational Message

Rotary International Director Nominee Edna R. Sutter

For the past months, as I had visited district across our country, I have shared my vision for rotary to exist for the next 107 years, a younger, greener and stronger rotary. And, I am humbled, that the Zone Institution Chairs of the Zone 78 and Zone 10, already adopted these as the guiding theme during the zone institute for the years 2027-2029, when I will be privilege to serve as your Rotary International Director.

Younger not only in age but in spirit, energy, courage and innovation. Greener rotary, because the future of rotary service and the future of our planet can no longer be separated from each other. Stronger rotary not only by numbers, I know you're going to bring in 100 members this year, but through good governance, transparency, stewardship and unity of purpose.

Last, for 107 years, someone made a decision that change rotary forever, someone decided to bring rotary in Asia and the rest is history.

President Reggie, it is your privilege to be inheriting a great legacy from predecessor and more years ahead, another generations will gather to celebrate another milestone in the remarkable history of the Rotary Club of Manila. And I truly hope, that they

will also remember and celebrate this turning point of Rotary Club of Manila, Turn towards United Rotary Nation.

Congratulations, Rotary Club of Manila, for having Reggie as your President this Rotary Year.

President Reggie and your team, please continue inspiring Rotarians, not only to admire but to live and embrace its ideals.

Magandang gabi po sa inyong lahat.

Maraming maraming salamat po.



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Inspirational Message

RID 3810 District Governor Maria Rosa "BING" N. Carrion



Protocol has been observed but I want to still recognize the wonderful Edna Sutter. Thank you very much for inspiring us. And Raoul Creencia, my compadre, oh my God, I'm so touched with your wonderful introduction and my dear friend Myls Creencia, I actually met her before you.

Anyway, I am both grateful, humbled, and honored to stand in front of all of you as your governor. This is my third speech as governor, I became governor yesterday, and I can tell you that I'm in cloud nine. Why do I say that? Because yesterday was our kickoff project at the Philippine Red Cross and it was phenomenal. But it was not my work alone, I'm just the conductor, I mean, it's amazing how my executive committee, Joey Gaba, everybody worked

so hard and I tell you, even I was impressed.

Tonight's very special to me because of the Rotary Club of Manila. Do you realize that the brother of my grandfather, Juan Morente Nieva is my grandfather, the father of my mother, the first governor of Marinduque. His brother was one of the first two charter members of this club, Gregorio Morente Nieva, my Lolo. I am standing here awesome because these are now three generations of Rotarians in the Philippines. My grandfather, myself, and my children are Rotarians, my son, Aris, and my daughter, Arisa, so three generations and that will continue. Rotary becomes a generation of families and let me tell you something. My Rotary journey began when I was five years old. Why do I say that? Because my grandmother, the first lady of Marinduque, would wake us up as siblings and bring us to the farm where we broke bread with the farmers. And that opened my eyes to the fact that we are all equal. I mean, I realized at five that the best thing in life was to serve others. I saw the eyes of the farmers glistening with pride, eating with the owners, and we were all equal. So, I thought, oh my God, this is what I want to do in life, then my life's purpose was born. My life is to serve and that is the reason I write books. The power of the written word can never be underestimated.

IN THEIR OWN WORDS

Inspirational Message

RID 3810 District Governor Maria Rosa "BING" N. Carrion

This is actually my response to Cardinal Ambo, who I always introduced when I was emcee of the Catholic Church as the rock star of the Catholic Church, and he loves it. But anyway, this time, I just want to tell you that AI is only as good as what we feed it. That's what he said, AI, we have to teach AI, ayoko yan, this is what I want, change again. But you know, it's tiring, I'd rather write my own thing. My creativity doesn't want to conform to a certain chat box or whatever, no?

So, what I'm saying is, we as Rotarians are awesome people. Why do we stay? 1.2 million Rotarians around the world in over 200 countries stay to become Rotarians. Why? Because it feeds our energy, it feeds our passion, it feeds our passion to serve. We actually feel better than the people we serve. I am so high when I do my projects with my presidents, and you know what I told my presidents? All of you will only do excellent work. Hindi pwede sa akin yung pwede na. Kailangan laging excellent because it speaks of who you are, it speaks of you as deserving Rotarians. Halata ba may fans club ako?

Anyway, why do we, according to Olayinka Babalola, now our president of Rotary International, when we do projects, we need to assess the last five years. Let us check what was the most outstanding project we did and we need to do

something better than that. We need to create lasting impact, we cannot do a project just because, oh pwede na, hindi pwede. The projects we do for the marginalized should outlive us. The projects we do should be filled with heritage and legacy. We need to be proud as Filipinos, that's the theme of my year, my theme is Pagsinta, it's not only love, it's cherishing. It's cherishing everyone, everyone with respect, with love, with compassion, we need to honor each other. So that is what it is, first, we have heritage and legacy, second is innovation. We need to innovate we cannot just do what, you know, yung tamad-tamad tayo, hindi pwede yun.

We have to work hard because we are Rotarians. The communities where we live, look at us and say, they don't say, ano yan? Uy, siga yan, Rotarian yan. Can you imagine? We have the trademark of being a Rotarian, and in Rotary, you can't just apply, you need to actually be invited.

So that alone is an honor, so that's when we innovate, we change lives and third, according to Babalola, all our projects should be sustainable. They should live beyond us; it should be able to sustain the communities. Didn't you notice that when we do projects, the eyes of the people we serve shine and their smile is something unforgettable? I have to share with you a

IN THEIR OWN WORDS

Inspirational Message

RID 3810 District Governor Maria Rosa "BING" N. Carrion

narrative because in Rotary, narratives are what encourage people to become Rotarians.

So, when my brother was governor of Marinduque, I told my sister in the States, Sis, please gather all the shoes of all the young kids because they outgrow them and they're all branded. Dodge, Nike, all that. And then send it to Manila by Balikbayan boxes, oh my God, it all came. So, we would go to the province and I cannot forget the snake-like, you know, line of all the young children and I would be bending there and fit the shoes in their feet. And you know what? You know their eyes? It told a story. The eyes of the kid when I put the Dodge shoes, it said, Ang sarap nito, ang sarap. Because they're only used to sleepers that had holes and oh my God, I kept crying. And they probably thought, iyakin naman itong babae na ito. But no, I was crying of joy, I was crying of joy because I saw what a single kind of shoes changes lives. That child would actually feel more powerful walking to school with shoes that were barely used.

Yesterday, as part of our project, we visited the school, the Ilaya Barangka Integrated School in Mandaluyong. So they said, how are we going there? Are we going to ride the tricycle? Oh, I love that. Governor, you're going to ride the tricycle? It's always the first time, don't think about me, those are only titles.

God will say, did you feed the hungry? Did you hug that boy who was crying? Did you listen to that grandmother who was despondent and thought that life was impossible? That's what God will ask you. Our life's purpose is to actually serve others; we are instruments to do good in the world.

So let me remind you that every day, we need to wake up, thank God that we have another day to serve. And then, let's do the work that Reggie said, with compassion, with kindness, with forgiveness. We must create this circle of life, toward off-evil, so that we create communities that are safe, happier, and more worthy with their self-respecting impact.

Mabuhay po tayong lahat. I love you all.



CLUB ADMINISTRATION

RCM Members' Attendance Report RY 2026-2027



ATTENDANCE REPORT July 2026

JULY 2026	July 02, 2026 ROTARY CLUB OF MANILA 107TH ANNIVERSARY & INDUCTION CEREMONY
MEMBERS PRESENT	87
MEMBERS PRESENT %	43%
MAKE UP ATTENDEES	5
EXEMPTED	3
ON LEAVE	0
Total Active Members	92
Total # of Members	203
TOTAL %:	45%
ROTARACTORS	11
MEDIA	0
EMBASSIES / DIPLOMATIC CORPS	0
DG, DGE, DGN, PDG	0
GOHS / GS	0
VISITING ROTARIAN	18
Guests of RCM MEMBERS	195
TOTAL ATTENDEES	311



LIST OF ATTENDEES July 2, 2026

1	Albana, Michael Jaey C	45	Magsaysay, Francisco D.
2	Alday, Albert Singson	46	Manalaysay, Cesar P.
3	Aragon, Joshua Reuben	47	Mauricio, Antonio DC
4	Aventura Jr. Avenilo L.	48	Mauricio, Francisco Robert DC.
5	Balanay, Aries B.	49	Mommaerts, Steve
6	Bediones, Rodolfo P.	50	Murillo, Marlon Alberto D.
7	Bella Jr. Geronimo P.	51	Nones, Romeo C.
8	Benedicto, Sixto T.	52	Nuñez, Jr., Jose A.
9	Bolton, Wilhelm	53	Obrado, Daniel Calzado
10	Buendia, Carlos C.	54	Ong, Phillip L.
11	Camat, Nathaniel	55	Ozaeta, Miguel Antonio L.
12	Carlos, Vicente J.	56	Pagdanganan, Roberto M.
13	Carranceja, Arvin Arik B	57	Panglinan, Manuel E.
14	Castro, Karlo Eugene Josef M.	58	Parwani, Raj
15	Cenica, John T.	59	Pascual, Abraham F.
16	Chan, Robert Sy Jr.	60	Pineda, Jr. Patricio F.
17	Cid, Dean Y.	61	Pineda, Jr., Jesus M.
18	Co, Val Constantine L.	62	Ra, Ingill
19	Creencia, Raoul C.	63	Recto, Philip H.
20	Cureg, Alexander P.	64	Rodriguez Sr., Joaquin C.
21	De Venecia, Joey III	65	Roxas, Michael D.
22	Del Rosario Sr., Oscar A.	66	Schneider, Bernd
23	Enriquez III, Eduardo V.	67	Serapio, Carlos G.
24	Esguerra, Herminio S.	68	Shimoda, Shigeru
25	Esquivias, Joaquin Pablo A.	69	Sibayan, Joselito H.
26	Fernandez, Antonio Jaime Jose V.	70	Simon, Juanito A.
27	Garcia, Herbert Joey	71	So, Warren S.
28	Garcia, Theodore Q	72	Tamesis, Chris C.
29	Garcia, III Victor G.	73	Tan, Eusebio V.
30	Ges mundo, Job	74	Tan, Lawrence Li
31	Ginez, Winston M.	75	Tan, Myles
32	Go, Daniel C.	76	Tee, Teddy Jr. B.
33	Go, Henry S.	77	Tillmann, Hansel Joseph Michael L.
34	Gonzales, Jonas R.	78	Valderrama, Jason
35	Guarin, Michael Arcatomy H.	79	Valdez, Amado D.
36	Guevara, Jr., Domingo S.	80	Valencia, John Nico P.
37	Guevara, Ricardo S.	81	Valencia, Rodolfo G.
38	Hiroyasu, Kanda	82	Yordanov, Stefan
39	Kalaw, Teodoro Alejandro Y IV	83	Yu, Geoffrey C.
40	Katigbak, J Alfonso L	84	Yu, Reginald Tieng
41	Koh, Paul Anthony T	85	Zaladarriaga, Felix Francisco S.
42	Locsin, Arsenio Z.	86	Zeitouni, Nagi
43	Lonzaga, Reinerio C.	87	Zalcita, Xavier Y.
44	Macatoman, Abdulgani M.		

CLUB ADMINISTRATION

List of Members Who Have Paid Their Annual Dues for RY 2026-2027

As of July 7, 2026



**CREATE
LASTING
IMPACT**

1	BAUTISTA, JOHN JR.
2	CASTRO, KARLO EUGENE JOSEF M.
3	CUREG, ALEXANDER P.
4	GARCIA, THEODORE Q.
5	GARCIA, VICTOR III G.
6	LONZAGA, REINERIO C.



**SERVICE
ABOVE SELF**



Rotary Club of Manila and PAFJO-TMJ Sign Memorandum of Understanding

The Rotary Club of Manila, as Funding Partner, and the Philippine Association of Functional Jaw Orthopedics-TMJ-Orofacial Pain, Inc., as Executory Partner, signed a Memorandum of Understanding last July 5, 2026 at the Lanson Place, Mall of Asia, Pasay City.

The MOU formalized the *Handog Makeover para sa Maayos na Kabuhayan Program*, a community service initiative that provides comprehensive dental rehabilitation to deserving beneficiaries to improve their oral health, confidence, employability, and quality of life. This happened during the 25th Anniversary and 25th Handover and Induction Ceremonies of the Philippine Association of Functional Jaw Orthopedics-TMJ-Orofacial Pain, Inc. Signing on behalf of the club were President Reggie Yu and DDPIC/Club Secretary Albert S. Alday in the presence of DGN Hermie Esguerra.

SWINGING FOR SERVICE

The 4th Rotary Club of Manila Golf Tournament



A Day of Fellowship, Excellence, and Giving Back
June 22, 2026 | Sta. Elena Golf Club, Sta. Rosa, Laguna

HELD on June 22, 2026, at Sta. Elena Golf Club, the 4th RCM Golf Tournament brought together Rotarians, sponsors, corporate partners, and golf enthusiasts for a day of fellowship, friendly competition, and shared purpose.

The morning started early. By 6:00 a.m., players were checking in and exchanging stories before the day ahead. Opening ceremonies followed, and at 8:00 a.m., the shotgun start sent everyone off to their assigned holes at once. What came next was several hours of good golf on one of the country's top championship courses, played by people who came to enjoy the game and support something far bigger than the scorecard.



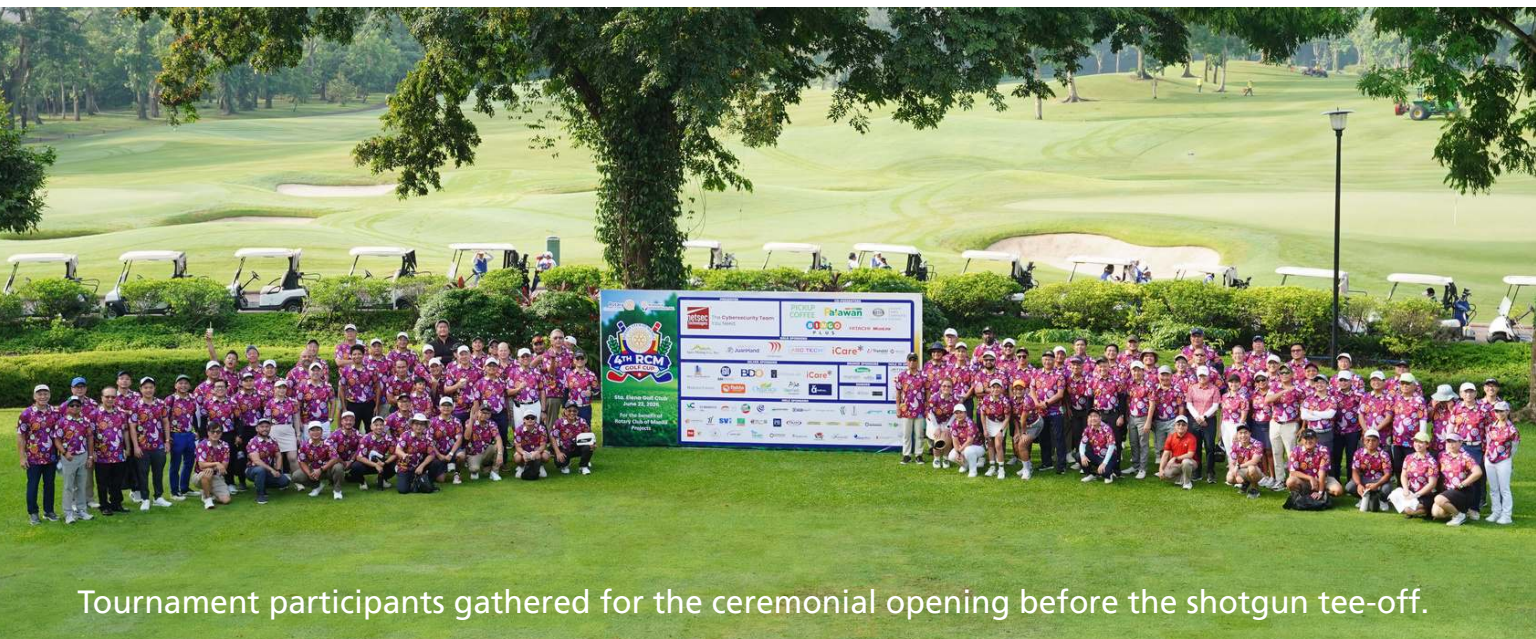
Registration. Early birds, players checking in and exchanging greetings before the first tee.



Breakfast Fellowship. Sponsors, Rotarians, and guests share a warm breakfast and even warmer conversation to start the day.



RCMFI Past President Willie Peliño led the invocation before the start of the tournament.



Tournament participants gathered for the ceremonial opening before the shotgun tee-off.





CEREMONIAL TEE-OFF



RCMFI Chairman Alex Cureg (left) and RC Manila President Raoul Creencia (right) led the Ceremonial Tee-Off to officially open the tournament.



From left: RC Manila President Raoul Creencia, RCMFI Chairman Alex Cureg, and Golf Committee Chairman Karlo Castro

Every peso raised helps sustain the programs of the Rotary Club of Manila and the RCManila Foundation, Inc., supporting education, healthcare, community development, and humanitarian assistance for those who need it most.

Of course, the day was about more than fundraising. It was also a celebration of Rotary fellowship. Old friends reconnected between holes. New partnerships took shape over shared laughs and the occasional missed putt.

Throughout the course, players showed the kind of sportsmanship and camaraderie that reflect the Rotary spirit of *Service Above Self*, proving once again that fellowship and generosity go hand in hand.













Scorecards set aside, everyone gathered over lunch to relive the best shots and celebrate a day well played.





AWARDING CEREMONY

The tournament concluded with an awards program celebrating the day's outstanding performances across the various divisions, followed by a raffle draw and acknowledgments for the generous sponsors and partners whose invaluable support and belief in our mission made the entire event possible.



Secretary Anton Mauricio and Ms. Krystene Bello take centre stage, expertly hosting the awards ceremony with professionalism and enthusiasm.



The ceremony opened with the Invocation led by Board Legal Adviser Caloy Serapio.



RCMFI Chairman Alex Cureg delivered his Welcome Remarks and expressed appreciation to the golfers, sponsors, partners, and volunteers whose unwavering support contributed to the success of the tournament and the Rotary Club of Manila Foundation's fundraising efforts.

MINOR RAFFLE



Winners of The Moment Group's gift certificate worth PHP 2,000



Winners of 1TB HDD from ABC Tech, with IT Arik Carranceja, President & CEO of ABC Tech



Winners of PICKUP COFFEE gift certificate worth P2500, with Dir. Rami Chahwan, President & Country CEO of PICKUP COFFEE



Winner of 55" LG SMART TV from G&W Clubshares Inc.



Special raffle prize from VST ECS and TrendAI



One of the highlights of the ceremony was the Announcement of the **Fun Hole Winners** by Reggie Yu, RCMFI Immediate Past Chairman and RCM President-Elect. Participants who excelled in the tournament's special challenge holes were recognized and applauded for their outstanding performances.



Longest Putt



Nearest to the Pin



Most Exercised Player



Longest Drive



Most Accurate Drive



A much-anticipated highlight of the afternoon was the Major Raffle Draw, conducted by RCMFI Chair Alex Cureg and PP Willie Peliño



Winners of Magarra Hotel voucher with Mr. Noel Gonzales, Owner of Magarra Hotel



Winner of 3 Strokes Golf Bag



Winners of Microtel and Trypton hotel vouchers



Winners of ABC Tech X10 Plus Study Buddy Tablet



Winners of Platinum Executive Check-up, with Trustee Dan Obrado, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of TopHealth Medical Clinics



TOURNAMENT WINNERS

LADIES DIVISION



Champion: Ting Yupangco



1st Runner-up: Atty. Eloisa Sy



2nd Runner-up: Lilet Abuel



3rd Runner-up: Anna Patrica Braganza

SUPER SENIORS DIVISION



Champion: Perry Sidiangco



1st Runner-up: Fausto Preysler



2nd Runner-up: Jess Manalo

CLASS C DIVISION



CLASS B DIVISION



CLASS A DIVISION

Class A Champion - Derek Ramsay



OVERALL CHAMPION: Andres Lorenzo





FLIGHT 3-B was awarded "The Wackiest Flight"
and won Pickup Coffee gift certificates

GRAND RAFFLE



Winner of a two-night stay in a Fairmont Gold Room at Fairmont Hotel Makati



Winner of PHP 25,000 cash from RCM and RCMFI



Winner of a gift certificate for lunch or dinner buffet at Spectrum Restaurant, Fairmont Hotel Makati



Winner of 1.5 HP Solar Inverter Air Conditioner from Drenzo Deye

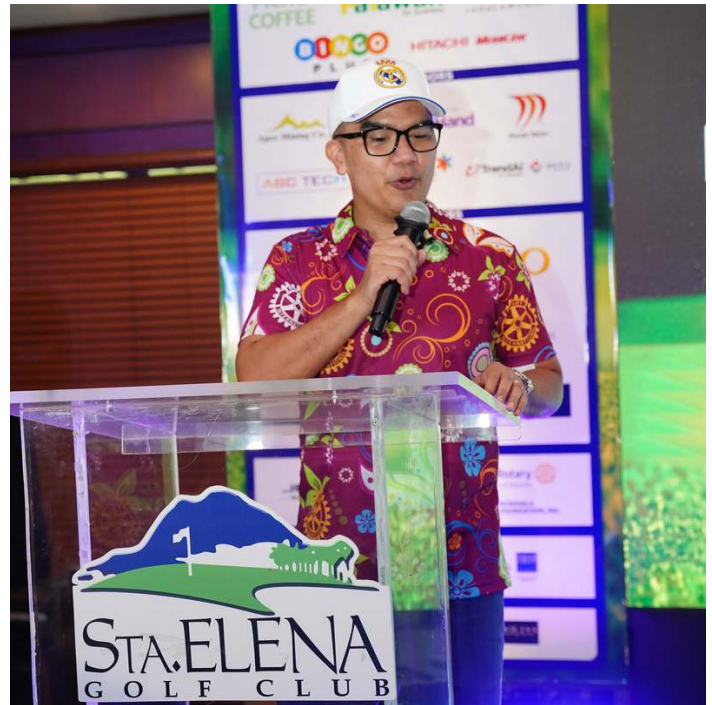


Winner of PHP 50,000 cash from RCM and RCMFI



Winner of PHP 75,000 cash
from RCM and RCMFI

The ceremony concluded with the Closing Remarks by Golf Committee Chair Karlo Castro, who thanked everyone for their participation, generosity, and unwavering support. He acknowledged the dedication of the Organizing Committee, volunteers, sponsors, and golfers, emphasizing that the tournament's success reflects the Rotary spirit of *Service Above Self* and its continuing commitment to uplifting communities through meaningful service.





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ALDOUS "REX" ALINGOG

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AyalaLand

STAR ROTARIAN
ERIC CHAN KE



PAGSIBOL:

The Genesis of an Impact Creating President's Rotary Story

by President Reginald T. Yu

MANILA AREA A

- RC Ermita
- RC Jose Abad Santos Manila
- RC Luntiang Maynila Prime
- RC Manila
- RC Manila Espiritu Santo Tayuman
- RC Manila Fort Santiago
- RC Manila Jose P. Rizal
- RC Manila Magic
- RC Manila Metro
- RC Manila Midtown
- RC Manila Pugad Lawin
- RC Manila Sta. Ana
- RC Mapua Alumni Manila
- RC University District Manila

MANILA AREA B

- RC Amazing Manila
- RC Liwasang Bonifacio
- RC Malate Prime
- RC Manila 101
- RC Manila Bay
- RC Manila East
- RC Manila Ilustrado
- RC Manila JP Laurel Malacanang
- RC Manila Kalaw
- RC Manila San Miguel
- RC Manila Tourist Belt
- RC Manuel Roxas Boulevard
- RC Metro Escolta
- RC Paco
- RC Quiapo Plaza Miranda
- RC Quirino Manila Central
- RC Raha Sulayman
- RC Raxabago-Manila
- RC Sampaloc
- RC San Marcelino

PASAY

- RC Pasay
- RC Dewey Boulevard Pasay
- RC Pasay City Coral Way
- RC Pasay Cyber City
- RC Pasay Eco City
- RC Pasay EDSA
- RC Pasay Libertad
- RC Pasay Metro Sunrise
- RC Pasay MIA
- RC Pasay MOA
- RC Pasay Prime
- RC Pasay Silangan
- RC Pasay Southeast
- RC Pasay West

Rotary
District 3810

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RED CROSS

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LASTING
IMPACT

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Driven by PURPOSE,
Fueled by INNOVATION.

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AREAS OF
FOCUS

- COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
- PEACE AND CONFLICT PREVENTION
- PEACE EDUCATION AND EXCHANGE
- PROFESSORSHIP AND LEADERSHIP
- SKILLS TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT
- WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE

RI D3810 KICKOFF

DATE: WEDNESDAY, JULY 1, 2026
VENUE: PHILIPPINE RED CROSS LOGISTICS & MULTIPURPOSE HALL
80 Apo Street, Mandaluyong

DR. MARIA ROSA "BING" CARRION, MNSA
DISTRICT GOVERNOR, RY 2026-2027
RI DISTRICT 3810

MANILA AREA C

- RC Bagumbayan-Manila
- RC Chinatown Manila
- RC Chinatown Circle
- RC Downtown Manila
- RC Mabini Manila
- RC Manila Alpha
- RC Manila Binondo Prime
- RC Manila Crown
- RC Manila Expats
- RC Manila Maharlika
- RC Manila Maynilad Seafront
- RC Manila Phenomenal Dentists
- RC Manila South
- RC Manila Supreme 198
- RC Manila Villamor
- RC Pandacan Manila
- RC Ramon Magsaysay
- RC Tondo
- RC Tondo Metro

CAVITE

- RC Bacoor
- RC Carmona
- RC Cavite Aguinaldo
- RC Cavite Centro
- RC Cavite East
- RC Cavite Export Processing Zone
- RC Cavite Metro
- RC Cavite Premier
- RC Cavite Uptown
- RC City of General Trias Prime
- RC Dasmariñas
- RC Hiyas ng Bacoor
- RC Imus Independencia
- RC Kawit Kalayaan
- RC Magdiwang
- RC Tagaytay Business District
- RC Tagaytay City

OCCIDENTAL MINDORO

- RC Lubang Island
- RC Mamburao Central
- RC San Jose
- RC San Jose Downtown
- RC San Jose Tamaraw

PAGSIBOL:

The Genesis of an Impact Creating President's Rotary Story



ONE of the most meaningful moments of our outreach was spending time with Lolo Piding, one of the beneficiaries of our wheelchair distribution. Unable to walk and having already lost his eyesight to untreated glaucoma, his quiet smile and gentle spirit spoke volumes about resilience in the face of hardship.

As I knelt beside him, I was reminded that service is not measured by the value of what we give, but by the dignity, compassion, and human connection we share. A wheelchair may restore mobility, but more importantly, it restores independence, hope, and the reassurance that someone still cares.

Moments like these remind us why Rotary exists—to reach those who are too often forgotten and to create lasting impact, one life at a time. Service Above Self is never more meaningful than when it brings comfort, dignity, and hope to someone like Lolo Piding.

PAGSIBOL:

The Genesis of an Impact Creating President's Rotary Story



ONE of the most inspiring moments of the day was meeting a courageous beneficiary, Caloy, undergoing lifesaving dialysis treatment. As I visited him during his session, I was reminded that behind every machine is a person fighting a daily battle with remarkable strength and resilience.

Healthcare is more than providing treatment — it is about restoring hope, preserving dignity, and letting people know they are not alone in their journey. Through Rotary, we strive to stand beside those facing life's greatest challenges, offering not only assistance but compassion and encouragement.

Every visit, every conversation, and every act of service reaffirms our commitment to Create Lasting Impact — one life, one family, and one community at a time.



PAGSIBOL:

The Genesis of an Impact Creating President's Rotary Story

ONE of the most heartwarming moments of our medical mission was helping an indigent child, Baby Sophia, receive a free life-saving vaccination. As I gently comforted the little one during the immunization, I was reminded that some of the greatest acts of service begin with the smallest patients.

Every vaccine administered is more than a simple injection — it is protection against preventable diseases, peace of mind for parents, and a healthier future for an entire community. For many families, access to essential immunization is a privilege they simply cannot afford, making initiatives like these all the more meaningful.

Through Rotary, we remain committed to giving every child the opportunity to grow up healthy, strong, and full of promise — because every child deserves the chance to live a brighter tomorrow. Creating Lasting Impact begins with protecting our youngest generation.



PAGSIBOL:

The Genesis of an Impact Creating President's Rotary Story

A successful medical mission is built not only on compassion but also on careful coordination. Here, I meet with our dedicated healthcare professionals and volunteers to review the vaccination program, ensuring that every beneficiary receives safe, efficient, and timely care.

Behind every vaccine administered, every consultation completed, and every life touched is a team united by a common purpose — to serve with excellence and compassion. Meaningful service requires more than good intentions; it demands collaboration, attention to detail, and an unwavering commitment to those who entrust us with their care.

When service is guided by teamwork and a shared mission, we do more than deliver healthcare — we create lasting impact for individuals, families, and the communities we are privileged to serve.



PAGSIBOL:

The Genesis of an Impact Creating President's Rotary Story

ONE of the quiet heroes of our medical mission was this dedicated Rotarian volunteer, Jojo, who chose to give the gift of life by donating blood. Every bag collected represents hope for accident victims, mothers in childbirth, children battling illness, and patients undergoing major surgery.

I took a moment to personally thank our blood donors, whose generosity reminds us that some of the most powerful acts of service require no recognition — only a willing heart. Their selfless act may never meet the person whose life they save, yet its impact can last a lifetime.

Rotary believes that service begins with ordinary people doing extraordinary things. Through every blood donation, we are not just collecting blood—we are giving families another tomorrow, another celebration, and another chance at life. That is what it truly means to Create Lasting Impact.



PAGSIBOL:

The Genesis of an Impact Creating President's Rotary Story

THE tears did not last long. Moments after receiving her free vaccination, this little girl, Baby Anita, was smiling once again — a simple reminder that a few seconds of discomfort can provide years of protection.

It was a privilege to comfort her throughout the process and to witness the relief on her mother's face, knowing that her child had received an essential vaccine

she might otherwise have gone without. For many families, access to preventive healthcare is not a given — it is a blessing.

Every child we immunize is another life protected, another family given peace of mind, and another step toward a healthier community. These are the moments that remind us why Rotary serves — not only to meet today's needs, but to invest in tomorrow's generation.

Healthy children build healthy communities, and healthy communities build a brighter future for all.

Upcoming Weekly Membership Meetings



Rotary
Club of Manila

**CREATE
LASTING
IMPACT**

2ND WEEKLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING FOR R.Y. 2026-2027

SEVEN YEARS BEHIND BARS FOR A CRIME HE DIDN'T COMMIT.

How One Man's Ordeal Became a Mission to Reform the Philippine Justice System.

“I advocate for a more equitable criminal justice system. Better policing. More efficient courts. And humane, effective correctional practices.”

Join Guest of Honor and Speaker
DR. RAYMUND E. NARAG
Associate Professor & Graduate Program Director
School of Justice and Public Safety
Southern Illinois University Carbondale, USA
Head Consultant, Prisoners' Enhancement and Support Organization (PRESO)

KEY INSIGHTS

- Real Stories. Real Injustice.**
Lessons from seven years of wrongful detention in a Philippine jail.
- The Crisis Inside Our Jails**
Why congestion, prolonged detention, and delays destroy lives and trust.
- Toward a Smarter Justice System**
Evidence-based reforms for policing, courts, and corrections.
- What Rotarians Can Do**
How leaders can champion fairness, accountability, and real change.

NETWORK WITH LEADERS
from business, government, diplomacy, and civil society.

**THURSDAY
JULY 16, 2026**
12:15 PM – 2:00 PM
Registration starts at 11:45 AM
FAIRMONT MAKATI
Makati City, Metro Manila
DR. RAYMUND E. NARAG
• PhD in Criminology, Michigan State University
• Expert in Correctional Administration, Pretrial Detention, and Justice Reform
• Author, researcher, and advocate for a more equitable criminal justice system
• Recognized national and international speaker

RESERVE YOUR SEAT TODAY
Bring a Prospective Rotarian.
One Guest. One Future Rotarian.

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**CREATE
LASTING
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3RD WEEKLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING FOR R.Y. 2026-2027

TRUTH. JUSTICE. ACCOUNTABILITY. NO-HOLDS-BARRED. THE ISSUES THAT MATTER.

A candid, in-depth discussion on the most controversial and urgent cases under the watch of the National Bureau of Investigation and what it means for our nation.

Guest of Honor and Speaker
ATTY. MELVIN A. MATIBAG
Director
National Bureau of Investigation (NBI)
A forthright briefing on the high-profile investigations shaping public discourse and the pursuit of truth and justice.

KEY TOPICS

- Flood Control Investigation**
Uncovering irregularities and holding accountable those behind the flood control anomalies.
- Human Trafficking Cases in Pasig KTV**
The disturbing realities, ongoing operations, and the fight against modern-day slavery.
- The Alleged Senate Shootout**
What really happened? Latest findings and the pursuit of those responsible.
- Ateneo Student-Athlete Deaths**
The facts, the investigation, and the quest for answers and accountability.

**THURSDAY
JULY 23, 2026**
12:15 PM – 2:00 PM
Registration starts at 11:45 AM
FAIRMONT MAKATI
Makati City, Metro Manila
ATTY. MELVIN A. MATIBAG
• Director, National Bureau of Investigation (NBI)
• Seasoned law enforcement leader and litigator
• Committed to truth, justice, and public service
• Champion of transparency and accountability
• Dedicated to protecting the Filipino people and upholding the rule of law

RESERVE YOUR SEAT TODAY
Bring a Prospective Rotarian.
One Guest. One Future Rotarian.

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DISTRICT EVENTS

Tenth Anniversary Celebration of the All Star Presidents and Team



DGN Hermie Esguerra attended the Tenth (10th) Anniversary Celebration of the All Star Presidents and Team last June 28, 2026 at the Gloriamaris Shark's Fin Restaurant Mall of Asia Annex Building, Pasay City.

First District Monthly Meeting of Rotary International District 3810



DDPIC/Club Secretary Albert S. Alday, DGN Hermie Esguerra and President Reggie Yu attended the First District Monthly Meeting of Rotary International District 3810 last July 6, 2026 at the Maynila Ballroom of the Manila Hotel in Manila.

DISTRICT EVENTS

First District Monthly Meeting of Rotary International District 3810



DGN Hermie Esguerra and DDPIC/Club Secretary Albert S. Alday with the rest of the district officers during the First District Monthly Meeting



President Reggie Yu and his fellow Impact Creating Presidents as part of the group picture during the First District Monthly Meeting



DDPIC/Club Secretary Albert S. Alday with Executive Committee Members of Rotary District 3810 for RY 2026-2027 in a Chinese cuisine fellowship after the First District Monthly Meeting at the Red Jade Restaurant of the Manila Hotel in Manila.

ROTARY INFORMATION

The Rotary Foundation Simplified

The
Rotary
Foundation



The Rotary Foundation is the charitable arm of Rotary International. It funds and powers the good works of Rotary clubs worldwide. Its mission is to help Rotarians advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace by improving health, supporting education, and alleviating poverty.

1 STRUCTURE: HOW IT'S ORGANIZED



WHAT IT IS

A public charity that turns donations into service projects that change lives.



WHO RUNS IT

Governed by a Board of Trustees (different from the Rotary International Board of Directors, which runs the member organization).



WHERE IT IS

Headquarters are in Evanston, Illinois, USA.



2 FUNDING: THE THREE MAIN FUNDS

The Foundation's work is supported by three principal funds.



ANNUAL FUND

The primary source of money for yearly Rotary projects and grants. Donations are invested for three years before being spent.



ENDOWMENT FUND

A permanent fund where the capital is never spent. Only the investment earnings are used, securing Rotary's long-term future.



SUSTAINING TODAY
SECURING TOMORROW



POLIOPLUS FUND

Specifically dedicated to the global eradication of polio.



3 PROGRAMS: HOW THE MONEY IS USED

The Foundation focuses its work in seven Areas of Focus.



Peacebuilding &
Conflict Prevention



Disease Prevention
& Treatment



Water, Sanitation
& Hygiene



Basic Education
& Literacy



Maternal &
Child Health



Community Economic
Development



Supporting the
Environment

It achieves this through two main types of support:

A. GRANTS – Funding for Rotary clubs to carry out projects



DISTRICT GRANTS

For small-scale, short-term, local or international projects.



GLOBAL GRANTS

For large-scale, international projects with sustainable, measurable outcomes.



B. TARGETED PROGRAMS – Specific initiatives



POLIOPLUS PROGRAM

Working toward a polio-free world.



ROTARY PEACE FELLOWSHIPS

Developing leaders to promote peace and prevent conflict.



VOCATIONAL TRAINING TEAMS

Sharing skills and expertise to build stronger communities.

HOW IT WORKS – THE ROTARY FOUNDATION IN ACTION



1. **DONATE**
Rotarians and friends contribute to the Foundation's funds.



2. **INVEST**
Contributions are invested for growth and sustainability.



3. **DISTRIBUTE**
Funds are converted into grants and programs.



4. **CLUBS & DISTRICTS ACT**
Clubs use the grants to carry out hands-on projects.



5. **LASTING IMPACT**
Communities thrive and lives are changed around the world.

**CREATE
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IMPACT**

Rotary

PUBLIC IMAGE

Induction of the New Board of Directors and Officers of the Rotary Club of Manila Featured in BusinessMirror



PASSING THE GAVEL Newly elected officers and members of the board of directors of the Rotary Club of Manila (RCM) pose for a commemorative photo after Manila Mayor Isko Moreno administered their oath during the organization's installation ceremonies at the Rizal Monument in Luneta on Thursday, July 2, 2026. The event began with a wreath-laying ceremony honoring national hero Dr. Jose Rizal, followed by the induction of the trustees and officers of the Rotary Club of Manila Foundation Inc. and the formal turnover of the club presidency from outgoing RCM President Raoul Creencia to incoming President Reginald Yu. **RON DOMINGO**

RCM Past President/Former Supreme Court Chief Justice Artemio Panganiban's Column in Philippine Daily Inquirer

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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

OPINION

Editor
Juliet L. Javelana

Intention different from discernment to kill

A month ago, our nation grieved over two young athletes whose lives were claimed by the unforgiving waves of Dipaculao, Aurora. In contrast, two weeks ago, our grief took a darker turn, as two young boys claimed the lives of many others in Tacloban, Leyte. Amid the shock, anger, and shouting over this horrific shooting, I noticed how the legal concepts of discernment and criminal intent are so easily mixed up. Can a child intend to shoot (and actually shoot), yet lack the discernment to be held criminally liable?

TO ANSWER THIS QUESTION, LET ME QUOTE Section 6 of Republic Act No. 9344 (Juvenile Justice and Welfare Act of 2006), as amended by RA 10630, "A child fifteen (15) years of age or under at the time of the commission of the offense shall be exempt from criminal liability."

Conversely, "[a] child above fifteen (15) years but below eighteen (18) years of age shall likewise be exempt from criminal liability and be subjected to an intervention program, unless he/she has acted with discernment, in which case, such child shall be subjected to appropriate proceedings..."

To be precise, children are deemed to be 15 years of age at midnight of their birth date. Once they pass the next midnight, they are considered more than 15 years old. Consequently, they cross to the next age bracket that requires a determination of discernment. A child's perception of right and wrong is frequently, yet mistakenly, confused with the intent to commit an act; thus, let us define both.

The Court—in *CICL XXX v. People* (March 14, 2023, per J Rodil V. Zalameda, en banc)—defined discernment as "... the capacity of the child at the time of the commission of the offense to understand the difference between right and wrong and the consequences of the wrongful act."

On the other hand, in *Guevarra v. Almodovar* (Jan. 26, 1989, per J Edgardo L. Paras, Second Division), the Court clarified that while discernment and intent are "... products of mental processes ... [intent] refers to the desire of one's



WITH DUE RESPECT
ARTEMIO V. PANGANIBAN

act while [discernment] relates to the moral significance that person ascribes to the said act."

The Court further explained that intelligence, which includes discernment, is "necessary to determine the morality of human acts to distinguish a licit from an illicit act." Without it, no crime can exist. Therefore, a child may have the intent to pull a trigger and cause harm but still lacks the discernment to grasp the profound moral and legal gravity of ending a human life. In such circumstances, the law exempts the child from criminal liability.

For this reason, the rationale behind Section 6 of the Juvenile Justice and Welfare Act rests on discernment, not on criminal intent.

BY APPLYING THESE RULES TO THE TACLOBAN SHOOTING, we are able to distinguish the differing treatment of the two boys who are legally considered "children in conflict with the law."

First, 14-year-old "Nash" is exempt from criminal liability; the law conclusively presumes his lack of discernment due to his "complete absence of intelligence." Regardless of how deliberate or calculated his intent to shoot may have been, he is deemed to lack the intelligence to make him criminally liable, though he is subject to an "intervention program."

As to 15-year-old "Rod," the Department of Social Welfare and Development has ascertained that he acted with discernment. Nor-

mally, under the law, he is subject to either "diversion" or a preliminary investigation. However, since the impossible penalty for the offense allegedly committed exceeds six years of imprisonment, resort to diversion in nonjudicial agencies like the barangay will not apply.

Consequently, "Rod" is now under preliminary investigation, following the inquest proceedings on three counts of murder and other charges.

THE DIFFERING TREATMENT OF JUVENILE OFFENDERS has inevitably revived discussions on lowering the age of criminal liability to 10 or 12. With due respect, I believe we must first address a factor the framers of RA 9344 could not have fully anticipated: the impact of technology and social media on a child's capacity to discern.

Verily, the environment in which children grow up substantially alters how they process right from wrong. To my mind, unregulated online exposure is inextricably woven into that environment, especially online nihilistic and violent extremist groups like "764." These digital influences gradually distort a child's capacity to distinguish good from bad, blurring the lines almost entirely between discernment and criminal intent. The virtual world equips them with the mechanical intent to replicate what they see, while simultaneously stunting the moral discernment to understand the gravity of their actions.

As we look past the public shock of the Tacloban shooting, we must recognize the fact that the paramount responsibility to guide our youth lies squarely on our institutions. Even before these children commit tragic acts, they are, in many ways, victims of a society that failed to protect them.

Ultimately, true justice is found not merely in punishing the young, but in building an environment where our children are nurtured to hold pens, books, and digital devices, not guns.

Comments to chiefjusticepanganiban@hotmail.com

OPINION

Political chaos must stop; major investments are waiting in the wings



BABE'S EYE VIEW FROM WASHINGTON D.C. - Ambassador B. Romualdez -
The Philippine Star ①

July 5, 2026 | 12:00am

As I write this column from Washington, D.C., one thing is abundantly clear: there is strong and growing interest in the Philippines from global investors, business leaders and strategic partners who continue to see our country as one of Asia's most promising emerging economies.

The Philippines remains attractive for many reasons. Our demographics are favorable. Our consumer market is vibrant. Our workforce is young, highly skilled, English-speaking and globally competitive. Our geographic location is strategic, which is a distinct advantage as global supply chains continue shifting across the Indo-Pacific.

A few days ago, the Department of Economy, Planning and Development or DEPDev (formerly the National Economic and Development Authority or NEDA) announced that the Philippines has officially entered the World Bank's Upper-Middle Income Country (UMIC) status – a "historic milestone that is driven by sustained growth, sound macroeconomic management and long-term structural reforms."

Every July 1, the World Bank's Development Data Group updates the classifications according to gross national income (GNI) per capita estimates from the previous year. And in the new country income classifications released by the World Bank last Wednesday, the Philippines' GNI per capita was at \$4,850, exceeding the UMIC threshold of \$4,636.

According to the global financial institution, "The Philippines achieved its reclassification through broad-based expansion. GDP grew at an average of 5.8 percent per year over five years, reflecting gains across all major industries, not a single sector boom, but an economy-wide shift."

Over the past several months, I have been in communication with numerous business leaders and investors from the United States, Japan, South Korea, Europe and our ASEAN neighbors. Many are seriously looking at the Philippines for major investments in infrastructure, digital technology, energy, manufacturing, logistics, agribusiness and even defense-related industries.

The interest is real, and the capital is available. The opportunities are definitely enormous. But there is one major concern repeatedly raised in discussions with investors: political instability.

Investors do not like uncertainty. Capital is cautious, and money moves where there is confidence, stability and predictability. Understandably, no serious investor wants to commit billions of dollars in long-term projects if political noise dominates the national conversation.

When headlines are filled with endless political wrangling, investigations driven by political agendas, personal attacks and institutional conflict, investors naturally ask difficult questions. Will policies remain stable? Will projects survive political transitions? Will economic priorities remain protected? Can institutions function efficiently?

These are legitimate concerns. But the unfortunate reality, however, is that excessive political noise can create hesitation. It can slow decision-making, raise risk perception and cause investors to pause and even delay commitments. Or worse – they can just redirect capital elsewhere.

And in today's competitive environment, investors have many choices. Vietnam is moving very aggressively, Indonesia continues attracting major industrial investments and India remains a powerful magnet for global manufacturing. Other economies are also competing fiercely for every available dollar.

We cannot expect, much less assume, that investors will wait forever.

For the Philippines, this is a critical moment. Global economic realignment presents a rare opportunity. Companies are diversifying supply chains. Strategic industries are relocating. Governments are encouraging trusted economic partnerships.

This is our moment. But moments can be lost. I have said this before, and I will say this again: economic security is national security. Jobs creation, industrial growth, infrastructure expansion, energy resilience and technology development all depend heavily on investments. These investments create thousands of employment opportunities, improve incomes and quality of life, strengthen the middle class and reduce poverty.

In any democracy, political rivalry and competition is par for the course. While debate is healthy, accountability is also essential. But more importantly, there must be a very clear distinction between constructive governance and destructive chaos. We all know very well that every delayed project means delayed jobs. Every postponed investment means lost opportunities for Filipino workers and their families. And this is why political maturity matters.

The good news though is that the Philippines still has strong fundamentals. Growth prospects remain solid, and international confidence in our long-term potential remains intact. But confidence must be protected. Government must stay focused on the fundamentals: economic growth, inflation control, infrastructure development, energy security, food security, digital modernization and jobs generation.

These priorities must not be overshadowed by political noise and distraction. This is not the time for self-inflicted wounds – this is the time for discipline, maturity and national focus. The public wants solutions – not endless political theater. Businesses want policy consistency – not noise. Investors want confidence and assurance of stability – not confusion.

Be that as it may, I remain optimistic because I have seen firsthand that many foreign investors continue to express strong interest in the Philippines and are keen to explore opportunities. Most of all, they continue to believe in the Filipino.

But they are watching and waiting – for clearer signals, for greater stability and for reassurance that politics will not derail economic progress. The opportunity before us is extraordinary. Major investments are indeed waiting in the wings.

In a recent conversation with a veteran international investor who has spent decades studying emerging markets, he shared an observation that stayed with me. He said, "Countries rarely lose opportunities because they lack potential. They lose opportunities because they fail to inspire confidence."

That statement struck me because it perfectly captures where we are today. The Philippines has tremendous potential, but political noise can distract from the country's economic prosperity agenda. What we need now is confidence, stability and unity of purpose. Political chaos must stop – because the future of our economy may well depend on it. We're begging... tama na, please!

* * *



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